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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

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Stewart releases Alcohol Coalition's recomendations

by Kathleen McGrory '05
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In an all-campus email sent on Wednesday afternoon, President Joan Hinde Stewart released the recommendations issued by the recently reconstituted President's Coalition on Alcohol and Other Drugs. The thirteen-page document suggests policy changes in five different areas of campus life that the Coalition believes can positively change the campus culture.

Although Stewart has yet to approve the recommendations– she will not do so until the campus community has weighed-in at a town hall meeting early next week – the President praised the group and its report.

"The Campus Coalition on Alcohol and Other Drugs studied a difficult issue, involved the community in vigorous debate, and arrived at a series of

see Coalition, page 4

Students, faculty react. See page 2.

Cost of Hamilton education rises 5.2% to $39,525

by Ian Mandel '06
NEWS EDITOR

Hamilton College will raise its comprehensive fee by 5.2% for the 2004-2005 academic year, to $39,525, according to Hamilton College Vice President for Administration and Finance Karen Leach. The comprehensive fee is composed of tuition, room and board, and the student activities fee.

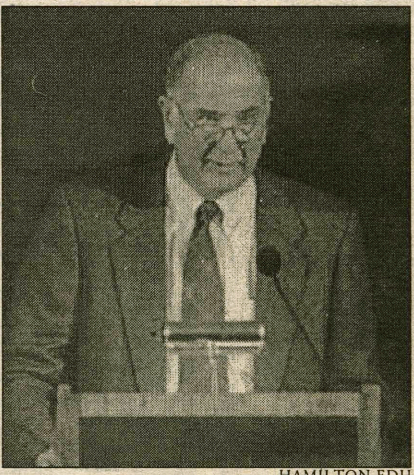
Leach attributed the tuition increase primarily to poor endowment returns from the market over the past twelve fiscal quarters, increasing budgetary demands and the College's desire to keep faculty salaries competitive.

"If we didn't raise tuition at all, we'd need some other type of revenue," Leach said. "Compromises are needed to come up with a balanced budget."

The College will be taking on several new expenses in the near future that Leach claims have necessitated a revenue increase. In conjunction with Hamilton's power supplier, Niagara-Mohawk, the College will be building an electric substation to increase the campus's power capacity.

Leach stated that the costs of the substation will be shared with Niagara-Mohawk and that Hamilton's share of the project will amount to $2 million. She asserted that the substation will most likely be located in the vicinity of North Lot, but that it will not be

see Tuition, page 6



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Stuart Scott and the Board of Trustees preliminarily approved the new budget that includes the 5.2% increase.

Search for dean of students on hold: Thompson to serve in interim

by Ian Mandel '06
NEWS EDITOR

Senior Associate Dean of Students Nancy Thompson will hold the position of acting dean of students for the 2004-05 academic year. President Joan Hinde Stewart announced her decision to delay the search process for a new dean of students on Thursday, April 1, in a Memorandum to the Hamilton Community.

Stewart cited the release of the Campus Coalition on Alcohol and Other Drug's report, released to the College community the same day as the President's memorandum, as a reason for delaying the search.

"I have decided to place the search for a new dean on

see Thompson, page 7

Hip-hop icon Russell Simmons engages in informal discussion

by Greta Rosenberger '07
COPY EDITOR

Russell Simmons, the renowned entrepreneur, political activist, and music industry icon recently appeared as a guest speaker at Hamilton as part of the Voices of Color Lecture Series. On the evening of March 11, Simmons, the founder of Def Jam Recordings, Phat Farm Clothing, and the CEO of Rush Communications, delivered an informal lecture titled "Hip Hop's Influence on Politics, Economics, and Popular Culture."

Simmons, according to Marc David, Dean of Multicultural Affairs, had been "selected from a pool of possibilities primarily because of his activism regarding New York's Rockefeller Drug Laws and the Hip Hop Action Network, which he organized to politically charge America's youth."

Following an introduction by Dean Paris, in which he acknowledged the time and effort involved in bringing Simmons to Hamilton and recognized Keturah Brown '04 for her devotion to the project, Simmons walked out to a fully-packed Wellin Hall, which included a mix of Hamilton faculty and students, as well as students from Colgate University, Cazenovia College, Mohawk Valley Community College, and members of the NAACP. He immediately informed the crowd that although he had been asked to give a lecture, that he'd rather learn from

see Simmons, page 6

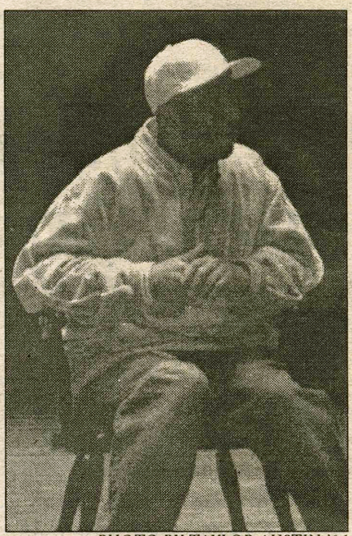

PHOTO BY TAYLOR AUSTIN '06

Russell Simmons took a seat in the middle of the stage as he answered audience questions.

Hamilton Democrats sponsor panel on same-sex marriage

by Emma Furman '07
NEWS WRITER

The atmosphere and dynamic of the Hamilton College Democrats sponsored panel discussion on Same-Sex Marriage in the United States was extremely vibrant, positive, and conducive to energetic and intelligent discussion and comments on the still controversial, yet ever more present issue of gay and lesbian marriages. This discussion panel included five professors and Hamilton College employees who each presented a different facet of the issue from a multitude of different standpoints and backgrounds.

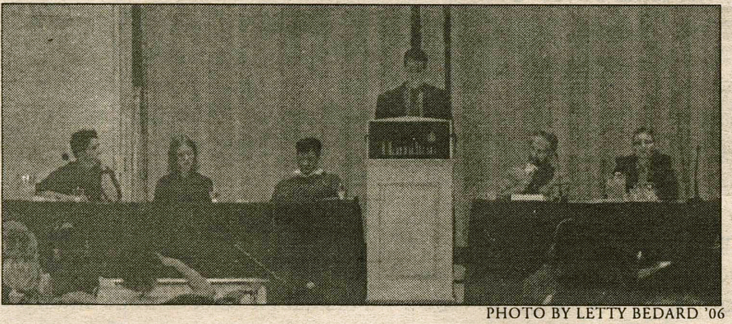

PHOTO BY LETTY BEDARD '06

Jonathan Kuhl '06, Chairman of the Hamilton College Democrats' Executive Board, introduced the organization's panel on same-sex marriage.

The panel and the entire audience overwhelmingly advocated same-sex marriages; however, they did so for a variety of reasons and from several different standpoints. Initially, according to the Chairmen Democrats' Executive Board, Jon Kuhl '06, the group intended to host a debate presenting arguments both for and against same-sex marriages; however, they were unable to find any faculty members willing to speak out against the issue. The group then decided to hold the panel discussion, which consisted of panelists speaking and then responding to questions to facilitate discussion with the audience.

"It's an issue that within the club we felt needed to be raised," Kuhl said.

Each member of the panel presented their view on same-sex marriage from their personal, academic or professional point of view. The

see Panel, page 7

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Schoch presents on Adirondack loons

by Guillermo Artiles '07

NEWS WRITER

Dr. Nina Schoch revealed that "loons are a great way to make people aware of the wilderness." Loons are high on the food chain, allowing them to be precise indicators of the overall health and status of our environment.

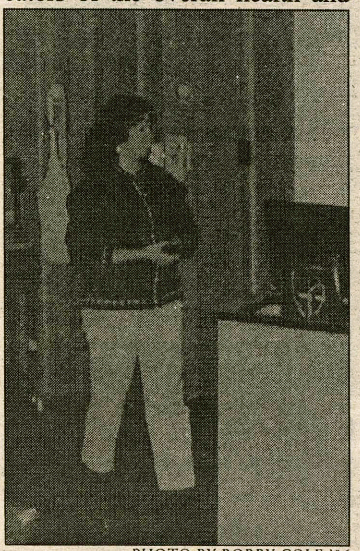


PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Dr. Nina Schoch gave a presentation on loons.

Dr. Nina Schoch, DVM, gave her informal Powerpoint presentation before professors, students, and experts on both the environment and on loon research. Her lecture, "The Adirondack Cooperative Loon Program: A New Approach to Wildlife Understanding," was presented Tuesday, March 30, 2004 in the Red Pit.

Schoch informed the audience that the loon is an ancient bird (twenty-million years old) that is considered a "Specie of Special Concern in New York" and also revered as a "Symbol of the Wilderness." Loons are "very pretty" birds that look much like ducks, she said. They inhabit a large part of the Northern Hemisphere, stretching from the eastern coastline all the way up to the waters of Nova Scotia.

Schoch stated that unlike other birds, loons are territorial creatures that live extremely long lives averaging twenty-five to thirty years. She added that they are located high on the food chain.

Everything from air pollution to leading fish tackle can all be threaded back to loons, Schoch stated. She outlined the unique relationship the loon and the environment share in which both conversely affect each others longevity. Because of their intricate relationship with the environment, the continual reproduction of loons is being greatly affected in a variety of ways.

Schoch described that these environmental threats led to her departure from her veterinary practice in the Adirondacks to journey into the Wildlife Rehabilitation Society. Schoch left her veterinary practice in 2001 and decided to give all her time and effort to the Adirondack Cooperative Loon Program (ACLP). Attempting to balance both priorities, she realized "she just couldn't do both." Her love and passion for the wilderness prevailed.

The ACLP began in the spring of 2001 in an attempt to not only thoroughly examine the loon, but also to make citizens aware of environmental wildlife and the problems that are caused by their daily activities. Schoch outlined these activities, insistently recom-

see Loons, page 7

Students, faculty and staff react to Coalition recomendations

by Christopher Takacs '05

EDITOR EMERITUS

The Campus Coalition on Alcohol and Other Drugs released to the campus Wednesday afternoon via the College's webpage has received a mixed reception among students and faculty. While some argue that many of the regulations are too extreme, others comment on how they are well-suited for Hamilton's alcohol culture. Responding to *The Spectator's* efforts to gauge campus reaction to the report, members of the community responded in the following ways to the report's recommendations.

Regarding alcohol policy and its enforcement on campus, Vice-President of Student Assembly Jeff Long '05 stated that "I view the Alcohol Coalition's report as very positive. There is a lot of give-and-take in it, and for the first time the Coalition has really left the recommendation in the hands of the students. For example, the section on setting up a social honor code, which is exactly what students wanted."

"With the point system," Kappa Sigma Alpha President Rachel Manwill '05 stated, "[the Coalition] seems to disregard the legal sanctions that are already placed upon people, such as with DUI, marijuana, and open containers." Further, "the parental notification is irrational and out of line. As someone who is twenty, I can get arrested, put in jail, and my parents would never have to know. I am an adult, and the parental notification [would make] Hamilton feel like a boarding school. They jumped to a lot of conclusions about that."

Sophomore Class President Alex Kaufman stated that "the actual point system doesn't create such a nurturing environment. It is very rigid and doesn't take into account the individual, as a liberal arts school should."

Hamilton Alum and Assistant Director Alumni Programs Kerri Page commented that, "as far as a the point system goes, I think it's the right idea. When I was a student at Hamilton, social policies weren't very clear. People need to be held accountable for their actions, and this system holds people accountable for their negative actions."

Many Students expressed concern over the proposed academic changes such as grade compression and the re-distribution of classes over the week. "The class schedule [recommendations] will just increase the number of absences on Friday classes," Manwill commented. "Also, there are a lot of people who don't drink on Thursday night, and still don't want to have Friday classes...The fact that someone does not want a Friday class does not automatically mean they want to get drunk on Thursday night."

Long also expressed concerns on this issue, stating that "My only specific concern regards grade compression. I'd like some more explanation about that." Kaufman added, however, that the first-year-oriented social change policies and educational initiatives were a positive part of the report.

Professor of History Shoshana Keller stated that, "Overall, I like [the report's] approach. I think the main thing I like about it is the emphasis on doing many things across a broad front. Everyone has to be involved. The faculty have to look at how to reschedule classes... the students have to be asked to do more work. We all have some responsibility."

The Coalition recommended increasing a number of residential and social options which received positive feedback. Long commented that "There are incredibly positive things coming out of the report, such as renovating ELS into a student building, providing increased entertainment and social options. [There were recommendations for] more job opportunities for student administrator roles, as well as several recommendations for subsidizing social events, which I view as very good."

Regarding the recommendation for faculty advisors for all Greek societies, Manwill commented that "A lot of societies were created in order to be completely separate from the administration. By implementing an advisor and yearly review, [the administration would] disregard the original purpose of societies." Further, "I think it will be a lot more difficult for the faculty [advisor]. It is a huge commitment for faculty to take responsibility for a society, and I wouldn't wish that upon any faculty member."

As a faculty advisor for ATX, Page stated that "The mandatory advisor idea is a good one. Since I was asked to be the advisor with ATX, I've had a great working relationship with the girls. I've come to their meetings, gone on the heart run and walk with them. Advisors for all the societies would be a positive thing for the campus."

Regarding the ongoing Alcohol discussion on campus, and its

see Reaction, page 4

Balakian presents work exposing evils of Armenian genocide

by Sarah Karalunas '04

EDITOR EMERITA

Peter Balakian, poet and author of *The Burning Tigris: The Armenian Genocide and America's Response*, spoke to Hamilton students on March 8 about his book. Describing the atrocities carried out by the Turkish government against Armenians in the 1890s and again in 1915 as the "first modern genocide," Balakian not only revealed historical detail about the little known events, but also analyzed the responses of both Turkey and the United States during World War I and into the present century. Through comparisons with the Holocaust, which Hitler justified in part because of the lack of political repercussions against Turkey, Balakian elucidated the importance of increasing worldwide acknowledgment of the genocide.

Balakian, as well as other historians, define the Armenian genocide, in which the Turkish government organized the deaths of between 1.2-1.3 million Armenians, as the first modern genocide because it is the first time in history that "modern technology was implemented for the sole purpose of killing people, not in an ad hoc way or as a part of a larger process, such as colonization," said Balakian.

Especially important, he added, is the way in which the genocide of the Armenians has been used as a template for other modern genocides, most notably the Holocaust.

"Hitler was inspired not only by the successful annihilation of so many of the Armenians, but also by the fact that twenty years later the genocide was all but forgotten," explained Balakian. "This demonstrates why memory is truly a moral issue."

Balakian also pointed to the Armenian genocide as a seminal event for international law because of its connection with the first international rights tribunals for "crimes against humanity," a term that has since been applied to many other situations.

In addition to providing historical details about the genocide itself, Balakian discussed America's large-scale response, which has also become an obscure part of American history. "Efforts to save the Armenians became the first international human rights movement in the United States," said Balakian. "It involved actors, writers, and politicians; however, it was also a grassroots movement of school children who sold lemonade and ice cream to raise money for the 'starving Armenians.'"

In total, philanthropic organizations raised nearly $1.3 billion, the largest philanthropic effort in U.S. history.

Balakian also noted that Clara Barton, who lived for part of her life in Clinton, NY, took the Red Cross overseas for the first time to aid Armenians during the WWI genocide.

Despite its prominence in the early 20th century in the American news media and psyche, today, the Armenian genocide and America's response to it have become ob-

see Armenian, page 7

Jeff Dyer '04 awarded Watson Fellowship

by Alexandra Sear '05

MANAGING EDITOR

Add Jeff Dyer '04 to Hamilton's list of world adventurers. Over break he got the news that he has been selected for a Watson Fellowship, which will enable him to travel anywhere in the world and spend an entire year learning about a project of his own design. Dyer will be spending the year in Cambodia, learning about native Khmer folk music, most of which was almost lost in the Khmer Rouge genocides of the 1970s.

Dyer was "at a rest stop in Indiana on Choir tour" when he heard the news, and his excitement has only increased since then. "Rob Kolb said I was dancing around grinning," he said.

The Fellowship is $22,000, and recipients are given little restrictions on how they use the money, other than that they must leave by July, spend the entire year out of the United States, and carry though with the theme of the project they proposed to the national Watson Fellowship Committee.

According to Student Fellowships Coordinator Virginia Dosch, Dyer is one of 50 students selected from a national pool that begins with about 1,000 applications. Every participating institution (of which there are 50 nationally, all liberal arts colleges with less than 3,000 students) can nominate four students, and the Thomas J. Watson Foundation selects from among those 200 finalists.

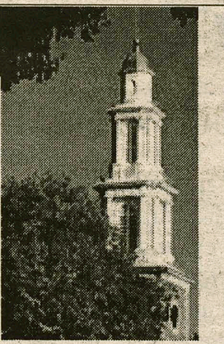
Dosch described the Watson as being quite different from many other fellowships, as more than any other award it encourages students to really evaluate themselves and their interests. "It's a grand question. All the committee asks is 'what you would do if you could go anywhere in the world for one year, and pursue a project of your own devising?'"

Dyer joins the ranks of other fascinating Hamiltonians who spend the year after graduation expanding their horizons on a Watson. According to Dosch, Hamilton usually does very well

see Dyer, page 4

IVORY TOWERS

THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND



Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Poker Draws College Crowds

ATHENS, Georgia (AP) — There's often a full house at Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity — in more ways than one.

At any time, day or night, the University of Georgia fraternity brothers and their friends are playing poker, putting aside homework in favor of learning the tricks of Texas Hold 'em and other card games.

"If everybody has nothing to do, we've had seven- to eight-hour sessions. It's so addictive," said Marshall Saul, a sophomore whose room is decorated with a poster of dogs playing poker.

The popularity of television shows such as Bravo's "Celebrity Poker," the Travel Channel's "World Poker Tour" and ESPN's coverage of the Texas Hold 'em championships have fueled a card-playing craze on campuses.

College students are perfecting their poker faces in lively games nearly everywhere — in dorm rooms, fraternity and sorority houses, and campus tournaments. Buy-in games organized by some colleges and student groups have drawn hundreds, with prizes ranging from money to televisions.

"It is crazy on campus," said Rachel Dorfman, a University of Georgia sophomore who often plays poker for hours with her Sigma Delta Tau sisters. "It is absolutely the thing to do right now."

Some online poker companies are targeting students with tournaments such as the first College Poker Championships.com, which began free qualifying rounds in January. Prizes range from $500 to $50,000 scholarships, and student winners also can donate up to $100,000 to charities of their choice.

More Campus Rape Allegations in Colo.

BROOMFIELD, Colorado (AP) — The University of Colorado has been hit with more allegations of rape by football players and uneasy questions about how much school officials knew about drinking by underage recruits.

Two more women have come forward in the past three months with rape allegations, said Janine D'Anniballe, executive director of Boulder rape crisis center Moving to End Sexual Assault, speaking Tuesday at a public meeting of the panel probing the scandal.

Eight women since 1997 have accused Colorado football players or recruits of rape. No assault charges have been filed in any of the cases. Three have sued the school, saying they were raped at or just after an off-campus party attended by football players and recruits in 2001.

The regents' panel for the first time reported on what it has found so far after reviewing depositions in a federal lawsuit filed against the school by one of the women who says she was raped.

Teacher Charged with Choking Student with String

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP) — A substitute teacher is accused of using a string to choke a 7-year-old student who had not done his homework.

Albert Coleman, 59, is accused of slipping a string around the child's neck and drawing it tight, police said.

He was fired by the Newark school district, and police charged him with aggravated assault following Monday's incident at the Elliott Street School.

A Newark Public Schools spokeswoman said the incident happened to the second-grader at an after-school program and said the teacher was terminated immediately.

Authorities said Coleman reportedly told the boy that he was going to strangle him if he didn't do his homework. When the boy didn't, police said, Coleman had the boy stand on a chair.

He then took the string attached to the ceiling light and tightened it around the boy's neck and released it, authorities said.

Police said the boy left the classroom and was seen by a school secretary putting water on his bruised neck.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Bremer: Iraq Deaths Won't Go Unpunished

FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP) — The top U.S. administrator in Iraq said Thursday that the deaths and mutilation of four American contractors in Fallujah "will not go unpunished," and a U.S. general vowed an "overwhelming" response.

AP

U.S. troops, however, remained outside the city Thursday, and commanders said they would act "at the time and place of our choosing."

They also defended their decision not to send forces into the city Wednesday to retrieve the charred remains of the Americans, who were dragged through the streets for hours after insurgents ambushed their SUVs.

Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt said troops didn't respond for fear of ambushes and the possibility that insurgents would use civilians as human shields. "A pre-emptive attack into the city could have taken a bad situation and made it even worse," he said.

On Thursday, Fallujah residents said they were ready to take on the Americans if they now try to enter the city.

Near Fallujah on Thursday, insurgents set off a bomb beside a U.S. military patrol, wounding three troops. Associated Press Television News footage showed smoke and fire pouring from an abandoned Humvee on the side of a road.

Madrid Names Suspected Terrorist Leader

MADRID, Spain (AP) — A 35-year-old Tunisian is believed to have led the group suspected in the railway bombings in Madrid, according to the international warrant for his arrest released Thursday.

Sarhane Ben Abdelmajid Fakhet is one of six people sought in warrants that a Spanish judge issued Wednesday but made public a day later. He allegedly helped arrange the rental of the house outside Madrid where investigators say the bombs were assembled for the March 11 attacks.

Four of the others had been at the house, their warrants said.

Fakhet's warrant describes him as "leader and coordinator of the people allegedly implicated." It does not suggest he was overall organizer of the attacks, which killed 191 people and injured over 1,800.

Investigators in Spain and elsewhere have named several people as the possible masterminds of the bombings. Earlier this week, the government identified the Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group as the main focus of the investigation. It was the forerunner of Salafia Jihadia, which Morocco blamed for deadly bombings in Casablanca.

U.S. Urges Palestinians' Terror Crackdown

JERUSALEM (AP) — American diplomats told skeptical Palestinian officials Thursday that Israel's plan to pull out of the Gaza Strip brings an opportunity to revive the "road map" peace initiative, but they said future progress would depend on a Palestinian crackdown on militants.

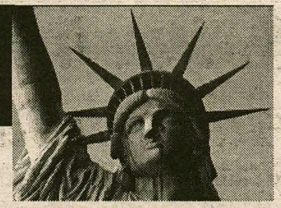
The U.S. envoys delivered the message in a meeting with Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia in the West Bank town of Jericho. The team then had two hours of talks with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, but no details were disclosed.

In another development, Sharon said Israel might move against Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in the future, Israel TV reported. Sharon made the remark during a series of news interviews ahead of next week's Jewish holiday of Passover.

"Arafat cannot be so sure of himself in his place," the Internet Web site of the Yediot Ahronot daily quoted Sharon as saying.

Arafat has been confined to his West Bank headquarters for more than two years. Several months ago Israel's Cabinet declared that Arafat is responsible for violence and should be "removed."

NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Bush Signs Fetus Rights Legislation

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush invoked the case of pregnant murder victim Laci Peterson on Thursday as he signed legislation expanding legal rights of the unborn. "The suffering of two victims can never equal only one offense," Bush said.

Bush was joined on an East Room stage by Peterson's mother, Sharon Rocha, and her stepfather, Ron Grantski. Peterson was eight months pregnant when she disappeared in December 2002 in the highly publicized case. Supporters of the bill have cited her and the son who was to have been named Connor.

"This little soul never saw light, but he is loved and he is remembered," the president said. "All who knew Laci Peterson have mourned two deaths and the law cannot look away and pretend there was just one."

Bush gave the bill, an important one to many in his conservative base, the first elaborate signing ceremony of the year. The law makes it a crime to harm a fetus during an assault on a pregnant woman.

"As of today, the law of our nation will acknowledge the plain fact that crimes of violence against a pregnant woman often have two victims," Bush said. "Therefore, in those cases, there are two offenses to be punished."

Ohio Shootings Suspect Charged With Murder

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The man arrested in the deadly string of highway shootings that terrorized Ohio drivers for months was indicted Thursday on a murder charge that could bring the death penalty.

Charles A. McCoy Jr., 28, was also charged with numerous other offenses, including attempted murder, assault and vandalism, in half of the 24 shootings.

The murder charge covers the only death in the case, that of 62-year-old Gail Knisley, who was being driven by a friend to a doctor's appointment and shopping trip when a bullet pierced the driver's door and killed her Nov. 25. No one else was ever hit.

Other cases covered by the charges include an Oct. 19 shooting at a tractor-trailer on Interstate 270, a Nov. 11 shooting into an elementary school, and two shootings within minutes of each other Feb. 8 from an Interstate 71 overpass.

Retired Truck Driver Claims $239M Jackpot

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Retired truck driver J.R. Triplett is on Easy Street: He stepped forward Thursday to claim a $239 million lottery prize, the second-biggest undivided jackpot in U.S. history.

Twirling a toothpick in his mouth and holding his wife's hand, Triplett said the prize was "no big thing to me" and gave assurances he would spend it wisely. His wife, Peggy, vowed to "shop till I drop."

Triplett, a regular lottery player, said the ticket was one of five he bought at a convenience store not far from his Winchester home.

He saw the winning numbers on television the morning after the Feb. 20 drawing in the multistate Mega Millions lottery.

He told his wife: "Sweetheart, I've got those numbers."

"Then she got down on her knees and thanked the Lord," he said in a statement.

Triplett said he waited more than a month before claiming his winnings so he could talk to a lawyer and "get everything straight."

The Tripletts, who declined to give their ages, have two children and two grandchildren.

At a news conference with his wife, Triplett said that he had no big plans for the jackpot but that he wants to put his money in real estate, "because they don't make no more dirt, you know."

Triplett said he has already bought a headstone for a friend's grave and plans to donate to two churches. But he and his wife of 35 years plan to have some fun with the money, too.

"Sweetheart and I might get lost for a couple of days," he said. The odds of winning were 1 in more than 135 million.

Community given access to Alcohol Coalition's report

from Coalition, page 1

thoughtful recommendations," Stewart said. "We are indebted to them."

Chair of the Coalition Senior Associate Dean of Students Nancy Thompson was also pleased with the final product. She has hopes that the Coalition's policy recommendations will begin effecting positive change soon.

"We really hope that the report will encourage students to take social responsibility," Thompson said. "We would also like to see judicial policies be clarified and student organizations receiving more support in a timely matter."

According to Thompson, before writing the report, the Coalition adopted two general strategies. The first of these involved taking a "multi-pronged attack." For members of the Coalition, this strategy eliminated the possibility of a wholesale measure such as banning fraternities or declaring Hamilton a dry campus.

"There is no silver bullet," Director of Student Activities and Coalition member Lisa Magnarelli said. "We [the members of the Coalition] all talked about different policy areas in which change would be effective. We then realized that in order to change the culture, small change would need to come from many different areas."

According to Thompson, working with the student body was also an important priority.

"We heard students say that now that they understand that there is a problem, they would like the opportunity to address it. We figured it would be more effective to work with the students than to issue a unilateral administrative action that students would oppose," she said.

As a result, the Coalition offered students the opportunity to voice their opinions at events such as the Adler Conference and town hall meetings. Now that the report has been published, the Coalition hopes to see students taking the lead on many of the policy recommendations.

"The way the report reads now is that the Coalition expects the student body to do a better job policing itself," said Jason Hecht '06, a member of the Coalition. "It is time for us as students to come together and eliminate things like vandalism and violence from this campus."

Students have the opportunity to effect change in a number of different areas. Policies target five different parts of student life: policy/enforcement, academic environment, educational programs, social and residential life, and organizations and Greek societies.

The first section, entitled "policy and enforcement," begins by calling upon students to design and implement a social honor code.

"By having students take the lead in creating the honor code, we hope that it will ultimately be something that students will be proud of and take to heart," Hecht said.

In addition to proposing the Social Honor Code, the report suggests ways in which the Administration might make changes to policy and enforcement. For example, the Coalition suggests that a point system be put into place to manage student conduct violations. The proposed system would not change the existing sanctions. Instead, by designating a certain number of points for each violation (more points being given for more serious violations), the proposed system would make the sanctioning process clearer and more consistent.

"The new point system clarifies the referral process," explained Director of Campus Safety Patricia Ingalls, a Coalition member. "It clarifies it for the students because they'll know what to expect. It clarifies the process for Campus Safety because the system dictates the type of referral. Once the guess-work is eliminated, students might be more inclined to think before they act."

In addition, the Coalition would like to see more Campus Safety Officers and Residential Life staff to ensure these policies not be violated.

"Typically during peak times [late nights on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays] we have several emergencies that occur simultaneously. Many emergencies require that two officers respond, leaving nobody on call," Ingalls said. "As you can see, we need more officers."

In addition to strengthening Campus Safety, the Coalition also seeks to implement preventative measures to substance abuse and destructive decisions. Therefore, it suggests changes to the alcohol education program during New Student Orientation. The Coalition also recommends the creation of a mandatory first-year program to continue the dialogue after orientation. Lastly, the group advocates the creation of student groups focusing on alcohol and other drug education.

The academic environment of the College is another policy area thoroughly examined by the Coalition. Policies designed to better the academic environment include encouraging academic departments to offer more classes during the morning and on Fridays, so that students do not schedule their academic lives around their social lives. Moreover, the Coalition suggests that faculty members reduce grade compression.

Student social options are also considered in the report. By suggesting funding for more late night social options and to renovate Emerson Hall (ELS) as a student center, the Coalition also suggests providing more social alternatives to drinking. At events in which alcohol will be served, the Coalition would like to see more third-party caterers, and consequently suggests that the College subsidize events catered by third-parties to offset the costs.

Further, the report suggests that all student organizations be required to have a member of the faculty, staff or administration serve as an advisor. Magnarelli is a strong proponent of faculty advising for student organizations.

"It provides consistency, advising and support to all student groups," she noted.

The report not only suggests that faculty members be more aetive in student affairs by advising student activities, it suggests that faculty take part in faculty-student social activities.

"In every conversation I've had with students, they have expressed a clear and strong desire for the faculty to play a greater role in their social lives," said Klinkner. "I'd like to see faculty do what they can to be involved with their students after 5 and on weekends."

Aside from student organizations and student-faculty events, the report looks into the role of private societies at Hamilton. In doing so, the Coalition recommends that all private societies undergo a yearly review in which the Committee on Academic Affairs will evaluate the society's academic performance, disciplinary record, positive contributions to the College and overall attainment of the goals set out in the society's charter. The Committee, made up of faculty, two students and the Dean of Students as an ex officio member, will then determine if any societies will be placed on social probation and if any will receive college funding for leadership development and social events.

"Private societies are different than other organizations. They are selective, they are single-sex, they require a rush and pledge process... We therefore feel comfortable requiring them to meet different standards," said Magnarelli. "These organizations really aspire to great philosophies. We want to hold them to their own high standards and reward them for doing so."

The Coalition also urges Greek societies to standardize their rush, bid and pledge schedules, so that the pledge process is limited to six weeks and finishes before spring break.

Thompson hopes to see many of these recommendations enacted by the upcoming fall semester. The Coalition has even taken a concrete measure to ensure change be effected by then: it has challenged students to both reduce vandalism costs by 50%.

If change is not effected, however, the Coalition will have the opportunity to reconvene and consider stricter policy recommendations.

"What we're saying in this report is that we hear students, we believe students, and we're willing to whole-heartedly support students," said Thompson. "However, what we're also saying is that if change doesn't happen, we will have to look at some other measures, including those measures that students are afraid of."

Reaction to Report

from Reaction, page 2

relation to the report, Page noted that "I was part of the Adler Conference, and I was Shocked by Bob Kazin's statistics on alcohol consumption and the problems around it... I want Hamilton to be perceived as a great institution, and if this report helps Ham. to be the best place that it can be then I support it."

"I think that a lot of the suggestions were good in theory, but in practice things will become more difficult," Manwill stated. Overall, she said that the recommendations will be "difficult to pull off. I think that a lot of their ideas about enforcement, the new simplified system, is really good, but I'm nervous about how much they want to do in such a short period of time."

"As a whole, I'm not exactly thrilled with the report, though parts of it certainly made valid points," Kaufman commented on the report as a whole. If implemented, Kaufman insisted that "It's not a students versus the faculty and administration. This needs to be a group effort... Now I'll be interested to see what President Stewart does. The ball is in her court."

Liz Dolan '05, President of Student Assembly and a member of the Alcohol Coalition stated that "Obviously I stand behind the recommendation. For the most part there are a great deal of positive things in it. If implemented, with the backing of the student body and the faculty, it will truly help the social culture at Hamilton. Most importantly, its success is contingent upon the community. We are urging the student body to back the recommendation. The fact is that this is only going be as successful as we make it."

Professor of English Nathaniel Strout commented that the report's recommendations are "Excellent...It is a big challenge for the students, and I hope they are up to it." Strout believes that the policy will work to reduce alcohol-related problems if implemented, but emphasized that "the responsibility is on the students."

"My initial response is that I'm pleased," Keller commented, "and its all something we need to take part in." regarding implementation, Keller stated that "It will be implemented if the people in charge are serious about doing it. One concern I've had is that the administration has a reluctance to enforce rules. The rules are serious, and they are for all of us... Somehow we have developed a very destructive culture, and that's not ok... They have to do this, or else the plan will just stay on paper." Keller added that she thought it was interesting how, "when President Stewart showed the slightest hint of discipline, it incited students to organize" and form Our United Responsibility (OUR).

Long added, "I give a lot of credit to the Alcohol Coalition to be able to construct a report that accurately reflects the administration, faculty and student perspective. That is a very, very difficult thing to do." Long advised students who disagree with the report to "Look at alternatives to this report; a ban on hard alcohol, or perhaps even a ban on private societies... Among other things, I think the Coalition really tried hard to get everyone on board, because they know we want to have fun, and want to be safe.

Watson

from Dyer, page 2

in the national pool, and we often have more than one student traveling on a Watson each year. Currently, Huy Hunh '03 and Chris LaRosa '03 are abroad pursuing their Watson-funded projects.

The idea for Dyer's fellowship proposal came from a simple source. "Believe it or not, I saw a documentary on PBS about Arn Chorn Pond, a Cambodian folk musician who was one of the only musicians to live through the Khmer Rouge." Dyer has since researched the Khmer era extensively. "One of the regime's ideals was an "agrarian utopia," he explained, and towards that end they "exterminated many educated Cambodians, especially those involved in the arts and music."

Pond has since started the Cambodian Master Performance Program (CMPP). "Since musicians were especially targeted by the Khmer Rouge, many are traumatized and too terrified to play," said Dyer. The Program "reaches out to old masters and gets them to teach the younger generation their music."

Dyer said he is more excited to go than he ever expected to be since, over the past few months, he has been learning more about Cambodian musical styles. It is "a fascinating music," based on a 5-note pentatonic scale and involving many genres and instruments. Dyer himself will be learning how to play the *khloy*, a flute-like instrument made of bamboo. He's also planning on learning the *tror Khmer* or the *Memm* (pronounced

see Dyer, page 7

The Spectator
"Older than the New York Times"

In light of the new lottery system, the Alcohol Coalition's report on student living spaces, and the pending tuition hike, the *Spectator* would like to propose that the college undertake a new project: the renovation of Milbank and Babbitt Residence Halls.

Under the revised lottery system, the suites are one of the few spaces upperclassmen can share with a group of their friends without sharing a bedroom. Jeff Landry has called them "desirable residences for seniors." Yet a simple walk through any floor reveals this is far from the case.

Turning "the suites" into desirable upperclass residence halls wouldn't be that hard. Get rid of the day-glo numbers and violent orange walls (...and you're worried about vandalism?). Color can do wonders in improving mood and promoting relaxation. Fix the non-functioning kitchens and open them up. The built-in borderline cardboard furniture needs to go, too. We know we can't have real furniture, but please at least give us the luxury of something we can move. And while we're at it, those blinds need to go, too. Surely we can find something that doesn't resemble the bars on a circus cage.

By nature alone, the suites are highly desirable: they are large-scale apartment style living spaces. Why are their singles crammed with sophomores and juniors? It certainly isn't because the pulls are too big. The move to break up suites (allowing students to pull part of a suite) hasn't worked. Such fractured suites are among the worst taken care of spaces on campus. They might as well be Dunham.

The suites are inhabited by sophomores and juniors because they are ugly, in poor shape, and stocked with old appliances that haven't worked properly in years. Furthermore, the furniture almost begs to be stained. The Alcohol Coalition was right on to note that the lack of ownership of one's living environment leads to a lack of caring for it. If we were proud of our suites, we wouldn't let strangers wreck them.

ResLife bemoans fraternities sequestering themselves in the suites. If the suites were nice enough for seniors to not want to give them up, frats wouldn't fill the singles with underclassmen. If you want seniors to select the suite, make them a place in which we've earned the right to live, rather than a place to which we are relegated when we want to live with friends but don't get a coveted top-ten number.

Where's the money going to come from, you may ask? Students are bearing the brunt of the tuition increase; throw us a bone and use at least a fraction of that increased revenue to significantly improve the lives of the hundreds of students who will live in the suites next year.

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Genocide claimed millions

from Armenian, page 2

scure events rarely even mentioned in most history courses. Balakian explained this radical shift as a result of an "incredible Turkish propaganda campaign," which denies that a genocide ever occurred and instead blames the Armenians for resisting the Turkish government and bringing about their own deaths.

In addition, Balakian pointed out that after WWI, the United States accepted the Turkish propaganda campaign and decided not to continue to aid Armenia because of the isolationist leaning of the government and the oil reserves that Turkey controlled. "After the war, Armenia was jettisoned for oil and isolationism," he said.

Professor of History Aram Goudsouzian explains that the Armenian genocide is left out of many history classes in current high school and college curriculums because it does not fit neatly into traditional topic divisions. "The problem is that it [the Armenian genocide] hasn't fit into any one curriculum. It's left out of Russian history, Middle Eastern history, and WWI history because it's at a crossroads of all of these, similar to the way that Armenia itself is a crossroads," said Goudsouzian.

Currently, a one-line resolution stating that the massacre of Armenians in 1915 was genocide cannot be passed in Congress because of Turkish pressure. "We need the American leadership to have a little moral courage," said Balakian.

In addition to *The Burning Tigris*, a 2003 *New York Times* Notable Book that covers many of the topics outlined in his speech, Balakian has also written *Black Dog of Fate*, in which he discusses his own childhood growing up as an Armenian American, and in *Junetree: New and Selected Poems 1974-2000*.

Goudsouzian hopes that Balakian's books and talk will help expose people to the issues surrounding the Armenian genocide.

"There's relatively little knowledge, even among well-educated people, about this event. Most histories of Armenia are very dry, even I get bored reading them," he said. "The benefit of Balakian's books is that he presents scholarly material in a way that appeals to many readers."

Simmons adresses hip-hop's affect on race relations

from Simmons, page 1

and have a dialog with his audience. After this announcement, Simmons promptly pulled a chair to the middle of the stage and opened up the floor for a question and answer session.

When questioned about the graphic and sometimes violent portrayals of hip-hop culture found in lyrics and music videos, Simmons replied that "Hip-hop is a kind of way of telling the truth through musical poetry, and the truth is violent sometimes. That's reality. There's a graphic truth to this kind of poetry, and we have to look at it without blaming the poet for speaking the truth."

When asked how he felt about actually taking part in promoting rappers and other artists who are particularly violent, Simmons made the point that "The 6 p.m. news is violent. It's just the world we live in."

Simmons advocated the need for a person to have a spiritual element in one's life in order to combat the hard truths of daily life. "I do yoga to help me deal with it – just take the good stuff and let the rest go. A spiritual base will help anyone find some kind of peace, and anyone without it is lost. It makes it easier to see what's good in life."

Several audience members also questioned Simmons's views on the depictions of women, which tend to be graphic and provocative, found in the music that he promotes.

"Be a wise witness," Simmons advised, "And if you don't want to witness it, hey, don't watch it. Always evaluate the lens through which you observe these things, though."

Simmons's response to this issue, said David, "made a good point regarding the exploitation of sex, money, and power on television, but failed to address the deeper issues regarding this of programming and its effect on America's youth and society as a whole."

Simmons also commented on ways in which hip-hop has actually improved race relations. "Rap has done more for race relations than anything else. Music brings people together, and this genre has introduced races into the music world. Chuck Berry didn't have the struggles Snoop Dogg did in trying to make it into the industry, because until Michael Jackson came along, there were almost no African-Americans in the music or television world."

In discussing the effects of the incredible wealth many successful musicians come into when they've gained public popularity, Simmons replied first with the basic adage that 'money isn't everything.'

"A lot of the time," said Simmons, "people have the attitude that they're going to get rich or die trying. It's the most depressing thing I've ever heard. The fact is, a lot of artists want to die when they do get rich. The problem is, they think once they have everything they ever wanted, they'll be happy. But they never stop wanting something more – they're still who they were before and where they were before, just in a different environment."

One of the last questions Simmons fielded was, "What's your advice to regular people who are just trying to stick it out?"

Simmons concluded the night with this final advice: "Well, that's your job, just to stick it out. Why are we here – to stick it out and to give yourself and your talent. You'll never get shit back unless you give it away. Getting what you want is not the goal. All of you have talent – now put your head down and get to work. You get happy by working hard at giving happiness. Period."

Although Simmons's use of expletives and informal approach to the evening offended some, others seemed to appreciate his "keeping it casual."

David commented that, "If you were looking for someone who was casual in attitude and delivery, the lecture was probably refreshing. If you were looking for someone to have a prepared lecture on 'Hip Hop's Influence on Politics, Economics, and Popular Culture,' you were probably disappointed.

Audience members Denroy Thomas commentd, "He didn't seem to respect the fact that there were kids as well as professors present, and he didn't display the level of professionalism necessary to account for those facts."

Regardless of whether or not people enjoyed him, as Ghiane Jones '07 comments, "It's just excellent that we even had him here. It's a first for Hamilton – to have such a influential person participating in the Voices of Color lectures – and it was an invaluable experience."

Faculty raises cited as partial reason behind comprehensive fee increase

from Tuition, page 1

physically intrusive or significant.

In a similar project, the College also has plans to convert the library from electric power to gas power in order to cut future energy costs. Leach estimated that this conversion will also cost $2 million.

According to Leach, the combined $4 million will be drawn from the College's operating budget over a number of years yet to be determined.

Leach also cited expenses associated with the operation of the new science building, which will be open for the next academic year, and rising insurance rates as additional costs. In all, the College's yearly operating budget will reach approximately $106.8 million for the next academic year, an increase of approximately $5 million from 2003-04.

A significant portion of the yearly operating budget is pulled from the College's endowment, currently estimated at "over $500 million." Hamilton has a complicated formula for how much they can draw from the endowment each year toward the operating budget.

"We take the value of the endowment at each of the previous 12 quarters and average them to come up with the base used to calculate what we can draw from the endowment. Our endowment spending formula says that we can increase our spending from the endowment from year to year by 8% if we are not drawing over 5% of endowment value as averaged over the 12 [previous] quarters. If we are over 5% we have to limit our spending," Leach explained.

Leach stated that for the 2003-04 academic year, the College drew approximately 5.5% from the endowment. This prompted the administration to limit spending.

"The bottom line is that this year we are using $22.2 million from the endowment and next year we will be spending $22.7 million. If markets had been good and we were able to increase by 8% (i.e. we were below 5%) we would have been able to use $24.0 million from the endowment," Leach explained.

Poor market performance over the past twelve fiscal quarters, dating back to the economic recession of 2001 and 2002, has shrunk the endowment considerably. Although the endowment has recently gained strength as the national economy has rebounded, consecutive positive quarters will be needed to increase the amount available for use by the College.

Another source of College revenue, the Annual Fund, the total of all non-specific alumni gifts and donations that can be used during the current academic year, has continued to meet expectations, bringing in just over $5 million this year; the goal for the 2004-05 academic year has been set at $5.4 million. Leach asserted that continuing to meet alumni donation goals is important for the financial health of the College.

Hamilton's desire to keep faculty salaries competitive was also a factor in the decision. President Joan Hinde Stewart emphasized this in her March 8 announcement of the increase.

"We therefore sought to invest in the people - faculty, staff and administrators - who provide the personal attention that distinguishes a Hamilton education," Stewart wrote. "I have chosen to compensate our employees fairly, and tighten our belts elsewhere, rather than, as some institutions have done, to freeze salaries."

Leach echoed Stewart's sentiments. "We think we have really good employees and we want to keep them, and that means keeping salaries competitive," she said. "We're people driven. It's a personal education. You [students] have a lot of access to faculty."

Leach also asserted that financial aid will increase comparatively to the increase in the comprehensive fee. She stated that $17.2 million in financial aid was given to Hamilton students during the 2003-04 year; this figure will be increased 5.1% to $18.1 million for the coming academic year.

Director of Financial Aid Kenneth Kogut stated that he believes the simultaneous rise in the comprehensive fee and financial aid will not discourage students from applying.

"We as financial aid officers go out and talk to high school kids and their parents every year and inform them of the availability of financial aid at the state, federal and local levels and how to apply for it," Kogut said.

Kogut also asserted that various factors play into the amount of financial aid given to students and that if there is any change, it won't be drastic.

"We don't want to short change anybody," he said.

Leach stated that Hamilton's 5.2% increase is "slightly below the average for schools like us," citing a list of thirty similar colleges. She also said that she expects the comprehensive fee to continue increasing in future years.

"I don't know what the amount will be, but it will be very difficult for us not to increase our rates," she said.

The final decision to implement the increase was decided by the administration with the assistance of officers of the College, members of student government and the On-Campus Budget Committee, composed of Associate Professor of English Nathaniel Strout, Associate Professor of Economics Ann Owen, Professor of Comparative Literature Peter Rabinowitz, Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs David Paris and College Controller and Director of Budgets Matt Orlando.

The 2004-05 budget was preliminarily approved by the Board of Trustees during their early

Panelists present viewpoints on same-sex marriage

from **Panel**, *page 7*

panel was put together so that there would be a variety of perspectives on the topic.

Jennifer Sturm, systems administrator and research support specialist in the chemistry department at Hamilton, was the first of the panel members to speak, presenting perhaps the most personal account.

"I was amongst over 4,000 couples to get married last month" in San Francisco said Sturn. She went on to describe how she and her partner were initially opposed to the idea of marriage because it was "elitist" and "discriminatory." However, her partner was having surgery in Utah for a month, so they made the decision to make the trip out to San Francisco and to marry. Sturm went on to describe her incredible experience of waiting on line to get married with thousands of other couples from all different backgrounds and walks of life.

"It was absolutely amazing," she said. While Sturm was not initially interested in marriage, she saw the benefits from a legal standpoint, and also commented that she saw that "poorer families stand to gain more from marriage." This aspect of reasoning for legalizing same-sex marriages was further explored by other members of the discussion panel.

Professor of history Shoshana Keller was next to speak, and presented her point of view from a historical and legal standpoint.

"Historically there was nothing eternal and nothing sacred about marriage," she said. "The person you fell in love with was not necessarily the person you married....Marriage was traditionally about property exchange between families."

Today in this country marriage does not generally have this connotation, and is instead an exchange of and vow for love, she explained.

Keller went on to argue that marriage did not traditionally develop out of religion or out of love, but "developed on the basis of property law."

The importance of legal property being tied to a marriage continues to this day. "Only legal marriage would allow the law to recognize my partner of fourteen years as my next of kin," said Keller.

Without marriage, gay and lesbian partners have virtually no rights, and if one were to pass away, their property and estate would not legally go to the surviving partner. Even though Keller and her partner had a commitment ceremony eleven years ago, they still cannot legally be married, and she "still can't leave [her] social security benefits to [her] partner."

Assistant Professor of Sociology Jennifer Irons further explored this topic, arguing that change is necessary in the institution of marriage. She opened by speaking about how she believed that same-sex marriage was important to have because it's "important to have access to all of the institutions and benefits Shoshana mentioned," and also because being married "makes it easier to have children."

She claimed that the institution of marriage has been far from constant in the past and is definitely "subject to change." In the past, she said, there have been many different "social regulations" on marriage. She compared not allowing gay and lesbian marriages now to not allowing interracial marriages in the past: "thirty-eight states prohibited interracial marriage," she said.

Irons went on to claim that "The old system [of marriage] isn't working," citing an increasing number of people living together and not getting married, rising divorce rates , and the concept of a "starter marriage."

"Right now," Irons said, "the government has been especially focused on protecting the homeland, and patriotism," and is attempting to make gay and lesbian marriages seen as "unpatriotic, un-American, and against our way of life." However, from all of her previously stated reasons, "in order for this institution [of marriage in general] to work, it's going to have to change."

College Chaplain Jeff McArn spoke from a religious and emotional point of view. "I represent an institution that has nurtured marriage, but at the same time has damaged it," McArn stated.

He spoke widely on the subject of love and how generally it is inherently intertwined in any marriage that takes place today. People come "together [in marriage] because they want to spend their life together....It is better to live life in partnership with another person where you conceive of this miracle of love. I don't understand why this is the exclusive right of the heterosexual community," he said.

McArn continued: "it grieves me in being part of the religious community that we [the church] can't be part of the leadership in bringing this [same-sex marriage] about."

Professor of Government Philip Klinkner discussed the issue from a legal standpoint. Same-sex marriage, he said, is "coming up on the political agenda." He spoke briefly about how civil unions were a major development in Vermont, but "remained pretty much contained to Vermont."

The same-sex marriages performed in San Francisco last month, however, began to change this.

"Up until this point the issue of gay marriage was helping conservatives and republicans," said Klinkner. "The democratic side was pro [same-sex marriages], but wasn't really energized about it." However, Klinkner went on to say, "when Bush came out in favor of an amendment" cementing heterosexual marriage as the only legal form of marriage, a lot of "very tradition notions of the constitution" came out.

Klinkner explained that people do not want to see this time-honored document on which the foundations of our nation are based altered or changed in any way. According to Klinkner, while "59% of American said they were opposed to same sex marriage, 53% said they were opposed to an amendment," and supposedly this number has gone up even more.

He fully believes that it is only a "matter of time" before same-sex marriages are legalized, even if it has to happen "one state at a time." "In another generation," said Klinkner, "this will be a non-issue."

The issue of same-sex marriage remains a hot topic of debate, although no debate occured at the panel. All those asking questions or making comments expressed opinions in favor of marriage.

Irons "thought the students are really well informed about the issue," and she "would've been surprised if there were a lot of dissenting opinions.

Keller had a slightly different opinion: "I thought the questions were intelligent," but was "surprised that we did not get any hostility."

Dyer to learn Cambodian music

from **Dyer**, *page 4*

"mum"), both stringed instruments. If he leanrs the *Memm*, he will study under a master the CMPP rescued from obscurity. Dyer will be the second person, and only foreigner, who will know how to play this once-popular instrument.

Phnom Penh, Cambodia's capital, is Dyer's first stop. He's been in contact with Pond, the subject of the documentary, and Dyer will spend a few months in the capital working with the CMPP before traveling alone tooutside villages, as well as to Thailand and Vietnam.

While a year away may sound like a nice break after college, the Watson demands much more than it seems from its fellows, and Dyer's trip will have its difficult moments. There is no flying home for holidays or days off, and Dyer's project in particular will involve being on his own in a country newly recovered from political strife. This is why Dosch says the project must appeal to students "on really a gut level. You can defintely see this in Jeff."

He's even got plans before he leaves. The day after graduation Dyer starts Khmer language lessons in Lowell, Massachusettes, near his home in Milton. He's also hoping to secure the rights to the documentary that sparked his fellowship proposal and hopefully show it on campus.

Dyer felt so strongly about his project after putting the application together that he was planning on using his savings to do it on a smaller scale anyway. "I'd thought so much about this and I was really up for it," he said. Even if he had not received the award, Dyer said the process was still "immensely valuable, just to be able to identify something I care about so much." Dosch echoed this: "For most of the Watson candidates, just going through the process is tremendously rewarding."

Dyer thinks the most important thing that will emerge from his trip will be that he will always share what he experienced, whether that is in the field of ethnomusicology, or in the teaching career that he may eventually pursue.

"Ultimaty", he said, "one of my primary motivations is my belief that horrific events need to be analyzed, for too often we don't think about them, either because discussion of them is taboo or too painful. Because of that, those events have more destructive power. We have to investigate, come to terms, and then learn from there."

Schoch shares powerpoint presentation on rare loons

from **Schoch**, *page 2*

mending that the audience respect breeding laws, observe wildlife from a distance, avoid any type of nest, avoid lead fishing gear that leads to the mortality of loons who mistakenly swallow lead sinkers, collect abandoned fishing line when encountered, and when jetskiing, boating, or canoeing, to always keep distance from wildlife and avoid the shoreline. When on land, she advisespeople to conserve energy, to recycle, and to steer clear of SUVs.

Professor of Comparitive Literature Carol Rupprech was responsible for bringing Schoch to Hamilton. An inhabitant of the Adirondacks, Rupprecht became aware of Schoch's research attending one of Shoch's lectures. After being impressed with Schoch's interactive presentation, she decided to bring her "up the road" to Hamilton to report her research to a diverse crowd, hoping to enlighten the Hamilton community on environmental awareness.

Rupprecht teaches four Adirondack seminars here at Hamilton, including "Wilderness in Words," which is based in the Adirondack region. After viewing the presentation, Rupprecht hopes Hamiltonians will begin to appreciate and protect our "neighbor up the road."

To increase awareness and a profound love for the wilderness and the environment, Ruprecht hopes to establish an internship for Hamilton students in which they can help with loon monitoring and loon census data, among other things. If students are interested in an environmental internship, specifically dealing with wilderness awareness, they can contact Adirondack Cooperative Loon Program through mail at PO Box 195, Ray Brook, NY 12977, via email at aclp2@juno.com, or they can contact the Wildlife Conservation Society via mail at 2300 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10460 or they can visit their website, www.wcs.org.

Schoch's lecture was made possible thanks to the Levitt Center, especially Paul Hagstrom and Sally Carman, the Dean of Faculty, and the Department of Comparative Literature.

Search for Flossie Mitchell's replacement temporarily on hold

from **Thompson**, *page 1*

hold until the campus community can discuss more fully the issues raised in the report, and consider whether some structural changes might help us achieve our goals," Stewart wrote.

Stewart also announced that a task force will be formed to "consider ways of integrating the work of the Division of Student Life and the work of the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Dean of the Faculty."

The plan laid out by Stewart will have the task force report back to the president by October 15.

The task force has been "charged with assessing the functions of the two divisions and providing me [Stewart] with the recommendations," Stewart wrote.

The position of dean of students was left vacant for the next academic year when Stewart declined to reappoint current dean of students Florence Mitchell, who has held that position since 2000.

The Russell Simmons lecture: controversy or hypocrisy?

by Adam Gordon '06
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

I've always had a lot of respect for Russell Simmons. He's an amazing person who has accomplished so many incredible things. From founding Def Jam Records to launching his own clothing label, this guy has done it all and succeeded. He single-handedly brought hip-hop to the mainstream, and he has given back through his Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation. On March 11th 2004, at the Voices of Color Lecture Series, I lost some of my respect for him as well as Hamilton College.

According to the Hamilton College news site, Simmons was going to lecture on "Hip-Hop's Influence on Politics, Economics and Popular Culture." Did he lecture on politics? No. Did he lecture on economics? No. And popular culture, did he lecture on that? Nope. This leads me to my next question: "Did Russell Simmons even have a lecture prepared?" Not at all. He came on stage, plopped himself down, and proceeded to do a one hour question and answer session.

Before I continue, I'd like to identify some of the college organizations that sponsored this "lecture." The list includes the President's Office, Dean of the Faculty, Dean of the Students Office of Multicultural Affairs, Levitt Center, Womyn's Center, and several other student organizations. As any distinguished person gets paid to lecture, it should be noted that Russell Simmons received more than 20,000 dollars to come. I am not denying that Russell Simmons is worth that fee; as I said, he's a distinguished person. My problem lies with paying him that money for the content of his "lecture."

During the Q & A session, Simmons discussed a variety of interesting issues and offered his honest opinion. However, when Simmons left the stage it occurred to me that he didn't even offer a real message besides "make a demo." I mean, I was at least waiting for the usual "follow your dreams," or "crack is wack," but the only thing I came away with is that "I gotta stick it out," which my white suburban heritage prevents me from understanding. Stick what out? Where should I stick it? I don't understand how our school could bring a speaker here without a clear message.

Last year Giuliani had a message, and I'm told Bill Cosby had a message although the Yankees playoff game and Campus Safety prevented me from attending. Hell, I would have gotten up there and delivered a speech with a more profound message... and I would have done it for a lot less than 20 Gs.

So, if Russell Simmons didn't have a clear message, than what did he tell us? Well, first off he told that rap is the voice of God. That's cool, can't you just see God rhyming out the Ten Commandments to Moses?

"Yo, Moses, I don't want you to be killing your peeps

Stay away from your homeboy's wife and don't hotwire Jeeps"

I guess the translation turned it into "Thou shall not kill, steal, and commit adultery." All right, I know he didn't mean that literally, but that was just one of the many comments he made that failed to further my intellect.

What else did Russell Simmons enlighten us with? Ah, yes, he said "we should strive to be less materialistic." I agree with him here, we're a very materialistic society. However, maybe he forgot that I, along with the rest of the world, saw his "humble" residence on MTV's Cribs. Perhaps he forgot that his bedroom is bigger than most people's homes, and that each of his cars represents 4 years of Hamilton tuition. If you want to see a quality example of someone who "strives to be less materialistic", go to MTV.com and check out photos of Simmons' private movie theatre or his GOLD TOILET, one of three in the entire world!

Do I blame Russell Simmons for having all that stuff? Not at all, he deserves it for making great business decisions. I'd also get a lot of the cool stuff he has... well, except the gold crapper. However, I don't see how he can come here and say we shouldn't be materialistic after he gets off his private jet or makes a call on his ridiculously expensive cell phone. If that's the closest thing we're going to get to a message, he should at least be able to back it up and not look like a hypocrite.

He said we should be less violent. Once again, I wholeheartedly agree. Yet, according to Simmons, rap that expresses violent thoughts and acts should be acceptable. While people like myself often find those kinds of lyrics entertaining, I don't think you can deny the fact that they can lead to violence. Especially with artists like 50 Cent, who currently has a song on the radio dedicated to his gun, which he affectionately calls "My Buddy."

IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Did Hamilton just flush twenty thousand dollars down Russell Simmons' golden toilet?

For someone who also condemns materialism and violence, his views are certainly not consistent.

As you will read on the Hamilton College news site, Simmons offered us his view on sexism. It's a good thing the article did not mention what his views were because Hamilton would not get a single female applicant next year. When asked about women (especially African-American women) being exploited and abused in songs, rap videos, and television, Simmons suggested that there was nothing wrong with it. I believe his exact words to the girl who asked him about it were "So don't watch it."

Simmons even noted that the music of Ludacris, who often rhymes about what he does to his "bitches," is acceptable because it is in the name of self-expression. While the treatment of women in hip-hop culture is an interesting issue, I do not wish to discuss it here. The point I'm trying to make is that the Office of the President, Dean of Faculty, and even the Womyn's Center sponsored a lecture that advocated bigotry and sexism.

If it is indeed true that the Voices of Color Lecture series strives to find people whose ideas support the goals of the College, then I wonder what Hamilton is trying to say here. I hope and expect that Hamilton did not have any knowledge of Simmons' intention to change the format of the lecture and express the controversial views he did. Still, Russell Simmons is a very outspoken figure, and most people knew what his views were on women in hip-hop culture before the lecture.

Perhaps the school wanted Simmons to challenge us with his stance on the depiction of women, and to provoke a reaction. Unfortunately, this does not seem to be the case. Instead, the school sponsored a one hour question and answer session that failed to make us better people.

I know I cannot speak the views of the entire community, and I am sure there are some who

see Simmons, page 11

Thumbs Up

- Raising as much hell on campus as possible before the Alcohol Coalition's "Stalinist Republic of Thought Control" takes effect.

- Searching your crushes on Google.com and finding them posing on a kiddie porn site.

- Seeing the football team doing aerobics in the gym.

- Going to bizarre on-campus events just for the "Opus goodies."

- Gaining 15 pounds over spring break. WHOOO CANCUN!

- Pants with elastic waistbands and TrimSpa, baby!

- WWE in the VT this weekend: George Sargent's back on campus. Lock your doors.

Thumbs Down

- Fraternities having to get housing on Seneca Turnpike because the damn sorority broads took all the downtown housing.

- Low-carb ice cream... you don't even want to know what happens once it's digested. Amazing.

- Every girl on campus coming back from break with bangs. When you tell your stylist what to do, don't bring in a picture of Kelly Kapowski.

- The bouncers in Commons chasing you down at 4:30 for your precious Howard Diner swipe.

- Not being able to apply for yet another credit card in Beineke because the IRS is already after you.

Sarah Gould '05, Avery Schlicher '05, Elizabeth Dyke '05

Who Cares?

- Pledge mutiny... if fraternity life wasn't for you, Campus Safety always needs more walking escorts.

- Yodapez hazing themselves in Commons... and everywhere else.

- How your friends abroad are doing... we click delete when we see your new Webshots album.

- Realizing that you have acquired a CNY accent. AW, CRYAAP!

- Realizing that at any given time, there are at least 20 guys in Commons you've "been intimate with."

- Anyone whose opinion differs whatsoever from ours. You're always wrong.

-Mourning doves cooing in the dappled light on the easternmost side of the Root Glen.

Boozing and losing on the Hill

by Britten Chase '05
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

My first reaction to reading the alcohol coalition's report: Wow, 13 pages? Single spaced?!

Second reaction: Who's gonna read that? We have... you know... lives.

But never fear; like the pathetic friend you had in elementary school that did your homework for you, I am here to the rescue. I have provided an analysis and point-by-point breakdown of the Report of the Campus Coalition on Alcohol and Other Drugs' March 15, 2004 report.

Just so you know, not only is this thing is 13 pages, it's divided down into 5 sub-topics, each with their own points, each point with its own argument. The recommendation concludes with 21 recommendations on alleviating our alcohol problem. And you thought this was going to be complicated.

So let's see what we've won:

Policy and Enforcement for $100 (ok... it's really the first recommendation. Still...): Social Honor Code.

Damn. I can't make fun of this. Dare I go on to the second one? I'm pretty impressed with the first one.

#2: Point System for violations. This is not like "good" points that you score in basketball. This means you get a certain amount of points for a violation, and after a certain number you go directly on probation or suspension, you do not pass Go, and $200 is not involved. Odd... I'd think that if instead of points we had zero tolerance for breaking school policy, there would be less leeway. Devil's advocate, I know. But I think that if we're going to do this at all, we might as well do it right.

Especially when we come to recommendation #3, which gives the school permission to tell your parents about all the crap you've been up to. I feel like this violates my rights as a college student to go wild without the 'rents having a clue.

Recommendation #4 singles out the athletes as the problem causers and asks that the athletic department deal with them. Athletes have always seemed to be scapegoats at Hamilton. I don't know if that's because of our small, snobby, elitist... I mean... academic, intellectual, close-knit community. But everyone always assumes that it's the athletes that are causing the problems. Never mind that athletes are the only group on campus that has academic standards that are actually enforced. If athletes screw up, they cannot participate in sports; there's no way around it. Personally, I know that if I ever did anything to reflect poorly on Hamilton, my team, or myself, my coach would shoot me dead. There is already A LOT in place to keep athletes in line.

#5: Anonymous tip line to report offenders. That's a good one too. So far I have the Campus Coalition at 2/5 for their recommendations. If this was baseball, that would be really good.

Next Section: Academic Environment. Recommendation #6: More morning and Friday classes. My reaction to this is... whatever. I definitely have a problem with class on Friday... and Thursday, Wednesday, Tuesday, and Monday. But hey, it is a five day week. If the class you need is Friday, you take it. Not much to do about that.

#7: Reduce grade compression: This means that instead of knowing you can drink 4 nights a week and still get a B, people at the lower end of the grade scale won't be able to slack off any more. This will largely affect those that blow off work, and will discriminate against dumb people.

Solution #8: Party with your professors. Yes. This is an actual solution. I never would have thought of this.

It's hard to tell if this is student-faculty bonding or a watchdog/babysitter solution. Maybe if your professors see that you're a lush, they'll be less likely to accept that late paper. While that will encourage drinking in moderation the same way that drinking with your grandmother encourages moderation, it is important to remember that some professors are what drive students to drink in the first place. Education Programs. Yay, education!

#9: Revamp New Student Orientation. Doesn't affect us. It could work, but some obstacles to overcome include getting kids to show up, pay attention, and appreciate what is being said, all at the same time.

#10: Mandatory first year program. This seems to punish all first years before they've even done something wrong, doesn't it? It's a waste of time for those kids who don't drink (they do exist) but still have to go to the class.

#11: Student Groups to focus on the alcohol problem. Fine, this makes it easier to have a dialogue between students and administration when a group is already in place. Let's be honest, all campus e-mail is not an effective forum.

Next section: Social and Residential Life. Oh, boy.

Policy Recommendation #12: More late night social options. Word. I think CAB has been doing an excellent job, but hey, the more the merrier.

#13: Student Center: I think they mean like a Student Union. Wow, what an idea whose time has come.

I think that after revamping the Science Building, KJ, Martin's Way, and Athletic Center, my grandkids will be psyched for a kick-ass ELS their junior year.

#14: Guarantee substance free housing. Why wasn't this happening before? Quit putting all the punks in Root (kick them out of school if they can't handle residential life on a residential campus) and let kids who really want a positive drug free environment live there. That's the purpose of substance free; it's not supposed to be a place to banish troublemakers.

#15: Additional Campus Safety officers and Area Coordinators. Two officers to protect everyone and make sure our campus is safe, and one to go give more parking tickets. Sigh.

#16: Third Party Catered events: some creative (as in dumb) people have suggested that the College provide us with alcohol so that we don't go booze up and send ourselves to the hospital. But now that the college is agreeing to do that, they're only providing alcohol to those over 21. Blast, foiled again.

#17: Video screens in Beinecke to scroll through events of the day so that people know what's going on. Not a bad idea, but it seems like a waste to me. Between campus e-mails, junk mail, banners, flyers, radio, campus TV, word of mouth, etc, how is it that students don't know what's going on?

#18: All advertising for alcohol at college events must be prohibited. I didn't realize it was that big of a problem, but ok.

Last section: Student Organizations and Private Societies. This is definitely the section that will cause a lot of controversy for an obnoxiously loud part of our student population.

#19: Someone to advise the societies. Great idea. I too have often thought that societies need my advice. But they are private, and therefore they are not mine or anyone else's business but their own.

#20: Yearly review for private societies. Um... see #19. I think it's the school's job to decide if the society is harming social life on campus, but I think things like goals or deciding if the society is living up to their charter should be decided by the society itself.

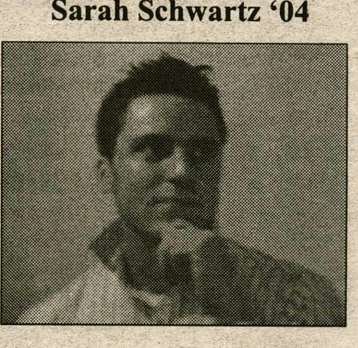
#21: Standardize rush, bid, and pledging, and do it all before spring break. The whole before spring break thing is good since work really picks up at finals. I'm well aware that the point of pledging is to physically, mentally, and emotionally break a person down until you can mold them to what you want them to be, but its not a bad idea to have this done before the end of the year.

Hope that clears things up.

Come on Clinton:

To Bone or not to Bone: Valliant Virginity

Klitora Kirkland
Sarah Schwartz '04



Phallixander Hamilton
Dan Fiore '04

Never have I ever. We know you've all played it, most likely in the form of a drinking game: Never have I ever had sex with two people in one night, never have I ever hooked up with a host of Sexy Gasoline (Klitora and Phallix would both be drinking), never have I ever massaged scented oil into the bald splendor of Eugene Tobin's head, never have I ever masturbated while pointing at myself in the mirror with my idle hand, and so forth.

But what happens when someone says, "Never have I ever had sex"? Would you all be drinking? What would you think of someone who did not drink? Would you be inclined to drink even if you didn't have sex? Phallix and Klitora have looked into the mysterious world of the Hamilton College students who are courageously out of the closet as proud virgins.

I did not have Sexual Relations with that Woman

The word "sex" is not as easy to define as it may seem, as Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky proved a few years ago. Does sex only involve penetration? Does oral sex count as sex? What if it only "slips in for second?" With society's confused outlook on sexuality that may altogether exclude the lesbian perspective, how should we define virginity? It depends on who you talk to. One person's virgin could be another person's filthy whore. A junior girl voiced her opinion: "I'd define virginity as not having intercourse. Technically, I'm still a virgin, but I'm a 'virgin' who has oral sex." Bill Clinton raves, "Amen!"

Another Hamilton sweetheart explained her ideology on virginity: "Physically I can't call myself a virgin, but mentally, I'm still a virgin." Using this logic, virginity does not really depend on what you've physically done, but rather on how you mentally identify you're actions. People tend to build up high expectations for loosing their virginity, and when "kind of having sex" while "drunk off your ass" doesn't meet these expectations, that person may consider his or herself a virgin. (Note: this "virginity" will not be taken into account by STD tests).

Silly Virgins, Sex is for College Students

Virgins aren't generally easy, and being a virgin in college is no easier. Here were some responses we received after asking random Hamilton students what they thought of virginity: "It's stupid." "Why?" "What's the point?" "You're missing out."

In a society where there is so much pressure to have sex, a person that decides not to have sex may feel as out of place as foreskin on a Jewish penis. One sophomore male boldly commented that "Virgins are great, try to take as many V-cards as possible." It seems virginity is no longer taken as seriously as it should be in a college setting.

So, when someone decides to abstain from sex, they better have a pretty good reason, right? While some people may resist sexual urges for religious reasons and others may be closeted fraternity brothers, the most logical and honest response involves responsibility; i.e. taking birth control pills and using condoms.

The term "free love" is not thrown around like it used to be, and for good reason. There's a lot more to sex than 20 seconds of pleasure. With pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and power issues, sex can be extremely confusing. Sometimes it takes a stronger person to realize that they aren't ready for sex, rather than jumping into something just to 'get it over with.'

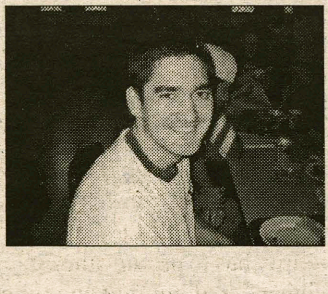
And Finally...

In the end, virginity is just yet another label in our already overly stigmatized world. If you aren't ready for the responsibility that comes along with sex, its better to wait then to jump into a messy situation. Try to avoid the pressures and make decisions that make you feel comfortable with yourself and your body.

While Phallix and Klitora have strongly promoted exploring your own (and others') sexuality, we realize that for some people, having sex may not be the right option. And if being a virgin gets you down, keep your heads up, you've got Phallix and Klitora behind you, sometimes under you.

Hamilton Uncensored: What are your thoughts on the new recommendations of the Alcohol Coalition?

Compiled by Sarah Mattingly '05 and Alyssa Menegat '05

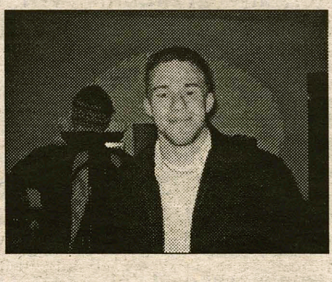


I'm glad I'm graduating.

- CJ Cantil '04

I as well as half the school would be on social probation.

- Emily Zwerner '06

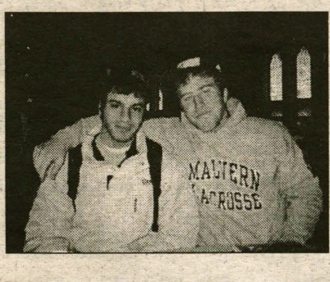


I think JHS is tryign to get rid of Greek life at Hamilton and this is the precursor.

- Doug Chiciak '06

It's only to affect people that break sh*t in Milbank.

- Jessica Wolinksky '07



Early morning classes? Absolutely awful.

-Andrew Pisanelli'07&Pat Hoper'07

No Straw Men: On Current Events

by Jonathan Rick '05
INSIGHTS & IDEAS COLUMNIST

Two stories in the March 25 *New York Times* disgust me. First: "Israeli Soldiers Thwart a Boy's Suicide Bombing Attempt." The Palestinians are now — did anyone really expect a different development? — using eleven- and fourteen-year-olds as suicide bombers. If producing children only to "martyr" themselves, and to murder as many Israelis as possible, doesn't make the world condemn the Palestinians — no, not every single one, but the people as a whole[1] — what must one do to merit condemnation (other than be George W. Bush)? Is there no shame? No self-worth? No love for one's family and friends that trumps one's hatred for one's enemies?

Tom Friedman, the *Times*'s foreign affairs columnist, answered as follows a year ago. "The world must understand that the Palestinians have not chosen suicide bombing out of 'desperation' stemming from the Israeli occupation. That is a huge lie." The Palestinians "actually want to win their independence in blood and fire. All they can agree on as a community is what they want to destroy, not what they want to build. Have you ever heard Mr. Arafat talk about what sort of education system or economy he would prefer, what sort of constitution he wants?"[2]

Second: "Paring Away at Microsoft." Seeking to "equalize" the computer software playing field — which unfortunately does not mean equality of opportunity (equality), but equality of results (egalitarianism) — the European Union's antitrust committee has fined Microsoft $613 million. Why? Because Microsoft had the nerve to integrate *Microsoft's* music technology into *Microsoft's* Windows operating system. In other words, because the law of supply and demand has enabled Microsoft to be "too" successful, the E.U. must dictate what Microsoft's products can and cannot include. The E.U. further wants to coerce Microsoft to help its competitors by giving them access to the code behind Windows. But, hey, who cares about property rights when it's somebody else's property? And who cares about the free market when you can just harness the power of government?

Interesting, the *Times*'s writer briefly describes why Microsoft is not a monopoly.[3] "Microsoft faces growing competition from Linux, an operating system that is distributed free. Even more important, Microsoft's dominance is threatened by a shift in computing from the personal computer to technologies like Internet-connected cellphones and Internet-based services offered by Google and similar companies."

[1] Yes, there are individual Palestinians who condemn suicide bombing. But since the Palestinian Authority does not allow free speech, those courageous individuals are usually the régime's first victims (political prisoners), and are drowned out by those who glorify such "jihad" and "martyrdom." If the Palestinians as a whole truly condemn suicide bombing, why does it continue? Tom Friedman's answer again persuades. "The reason [extremists] are both tolerated and successful is that they are almost always acting on the basis of widely shared feelings or yearnings. As Israeli political scientist Ehud Sprinzak rightly put it, these so-called extremists are usually just the tip of an iceberg that is connected in a deep and fundamental way to the bases of their respective societies." Thomas L. Friedman, *From Beirut To Jerusalem*, revised ed. (New York: Anchor, 1995), 261.

[2] Thomas L. Friedman, "Suicidal Lies," *New York Times*, March 31, 2002.

[3] The only monopolies on a free market are those government protects, for instance by laws restricting entrance to a field.

Stability vs. Morality, Justice and Freedom, i.e., Individual Rights

Either a principle is watertight, or it is an expedient that others may later just as arbitrarily foist on you. For instance, as philosopher Ayn Rand put it, "You cannot say that 'man has inalienable rights except in cold weather and on every second Tuesday,' just as you cannot say that 'man has inalienable rights except in an emergency,' or 'man's rights cannot be violated except for a good purpose.'" Thus, when one begins making conditions, reservations and exceptions, one admits that something supersedes one's rights — which may violate them at its discretion.

Yet, after three years of debating these issues in and outside class, I've found that this either-or, all-or-nothing argument rarely convinces. The most serious counterargument is America herself; America balances "rights" with democratic deliberation. "Balancing," of course, means "invading," and I put "rights" in quotes because if they're not inalienable, they're merely *privileges* the state gifts. Nonetheless, even if one concedes that this mixed economy constitutes a slippery slope, it's endured 228 years and weathered everything from civil war to depression.

First, as New York University political scientist Chris Sciabarra notes, such crises develop only when the statist aspects of our economy have prevailed. And we survive these crises because the capitalist aspects have prevailed. Indeed, America is unique among nation-states in that we still retain vestiges of a libertarian heritage.

Second, the U.S. government should not be Machiavellian; stability is neither government's purpose nor its barometer. Yes, governmental stability provides the context necessary to exercise one's freedom; but a government that sacrifices its citizens' rights to prop itself up doesn't deserve its title and isn't worth preserving.

Third, as the Romans said, "Let justice be done, though the heavens fall." The heavens, of course, are stability, and justice is freedom — freedom from, not freedom to — i.e., individual rights.

Life at "Camp Hamilton"

by William Chenevert '05
INSIGHTS & IDEAS WRITER

That feeling of freedom and minimal responsibility during the weekend before Spring Break ended was so glorious, and yet so fleeting. I tried not to think of syllabi and assignments, or the Anthropology test I knew I'd bombed. Then bam, like a slap across the face from a rageful Richard Simmons, I'm back in Hamilton-world. So this week was a strange one, wasn't it? People are out frolicking in the quad like there's no tomorrow. Camp Hamilton is back and in full effect.

Dig out those flip flops and short skirts, find your pastel polos and khaki shorts, and sport those Gucci sunglasses even when you're not in the sun (no, you don't look like a tool walking through Opus in your oh-so-stylish-shades) - it's a sunny 60 degrees! It's really quite funny.

I used to get piles and piles of admissions materials from the most random schools in high school. I'd give most of them a chance if their brochures looked snazzy enough; and occasionally there'd be those images of leisurely lazy campus life that just seemed way too posed and cliché. Those Viewbook-esque moments are just precious aren't they? Let's envision some of them.

A classic one is library quad Frisbee. Sometimes it's a four-way freshman sight. It really looks sad to watch them routinely throw, catch, throw, oooooh dropped it!, throw, catch. Occasionally a smile is cracked, a joke made, or someone jogs or jumps to grab a wild throw, but for the most part, the observer from afar thinks sarcastically, "That looks like great fun."

Variations include the skilled ultimate weirds engaging in their own personal crunch-fest: shoeless, sometimes shirtless, long curly locks flowing and jabs at skill flying in their nerd-talk. I'm not gonna lie though, sometimes I wish I could pull off the super-crunchy look.

Then there's the frat-boy parade for the ladies. It's like they think they're on stage or something. Quite a show indeed for the prospective high school students; I'm sure some horny adolescents went on a tour and matriculated just to see that sultry South-quad Frisbee player in their classroom.

How about the Martin's Way bench stop to soak up the sun, see and be seen, and 'run into' half of the people you 'missed' over break? Classic Viewbook moment. The chitchat never really grows old does it? "I went to St. Maarten! Where'd you go!?" "I have so much work but I just can't do it! It's so nice outside!" "Are you going out tonight?! I think I am. Go! Pleeeaase... you should!"

In the fall it really is one of the most beautiful places on campus; those trees get so red. In the spring it's a meat market and spontaneous social space. Admissions should camp out behind the ELS bushes and snap some of the schmoozing that goes on in that particular vicinity.

Another classic Viewbook moment: the exercise freaks. It's as if half of this school is training to be marathoners. The people in Utica and Clinton who drive through Hamilton's campus must be thinking, "These kids just play Frisbee, sun-bathe and run around campus all day?" Noooo way, we also complain about how much work we have and drink ourselves close to death.

I guess if we have to put on bathing suits soon and sport those tank tops and short shorts, that winter pudge has be worked off somehow. I used to be a dis

*see **Hamilton**, page 11*

Letters to the Editor

THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMNUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECT ION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF *THE SPECTATOR*, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, *THE SPECTATOR* HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:

1. Submissions are due by 6:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before publication. Submissions can be sent by email to spec@hamilton.edu or to the individual I&I editors (adavis@hamilton.edu or wrothe@hamilton.edu). The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

Dear Spectator,

The March 11 "lecture" by Russell Simmons should be an embarrassment to Hamilton College. Under the academic guise of the Voices of Color lecture series, the speaker prepared no opening remarks and answered questions without thoughtfulness or respect for his audience. That so many members of the Hamilton community genuflected before him reveals either ignorance or racial guilt run amok. Such behavior suggests that we expect less of speakers such as Mr. Simmons, whether due to his celebrity or his race.

Russell Simmons is certainly a valid figure to bring to campus, both for his marketing of hip-hop culture to mass audiences and his linking of entertainment to political activism. One would imagine, given the astronomical sums paid such celebrity speakers, that the audience would gain some insight into such issues. But Mr. Simmons only delivered banalities: rappers are poets, rap's sexism and violence reflect the reality of the streets, and such and such.

If the college considers such lessons valuable, it could have saved its money and circulated a back issue of Vibe magazine.

Aram Goudsouzian
History Department

To the Editor:

As one who can remember when Tom Murphy was hired as basketball coach in 1970, I thoroughly enjoyed the article in the winter 2004 issue of The Alumni Review "A coaching legend retires", which summarized Tom Murphy's amazing career at Hamilton.

However I would respectively disagree with the assertion in the article that "Murphy's accomplishments are best measured by the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championship banners hanging in Scott Field House."

I do not believe Tom Murphy's accomplishments are best measured by the ECAC and NCAA banners, or the plaques, or the 12 All-Americans who played for him. I also do not believe his career is best measured by the more than 600 wins or the almost twenty graduates who have used their Hamilton basketball experience as a springboard to a happy and fulfilling (although probably low playing) career in basketball or the many accomplishments of those who have graduated under his tutelage.

In my view, the great legacy of Tom Murphy is that he demonstrated that a quality intercollegiate sports program is not an adjunct to a liberal arts education or something to be tolerated but can be and should be an essential part of the liberal arts experience for those who participate.

Too often we view intercollegiate athletics at a small liberal arts school as something (1) to keep the alumni happy (2) to attract certain students to the institution (3) to raise "school spirit" (4) to provide an outlet for students when not in class or (5) to keep the "jocks" happy. Actually to quote someone much wiser than I the primary objective of a liberal arts education is the "infusion of knowledge in students", "to bring the individual student to his highest development of his potential." and "the development of confidence in the student, in their ability and in the training which they received at Hamilton".

Anyone who has seen Coach Murphy's teams play basketball or talked to his players can tell they have received a superb liberal arts education. The players and coaches have learned the importance of intensity, teamwork, hard work and imagination in any endeavor. Most of all they have been taught by Professor Murphy how to respond to adversity - instead of quitting - try harder. Certainly he has taught all who have come in contact with him and were willing to learn the essence of a liberal arts education.

I close with a small example of Professor Murphy, the teacher. One of the many wonderful traditions he established at Hamilton was Senior Weekend during which the coaches and their wives and the seniors and their parents are honored. As part of the ceremonies, Professor Murphy calls on one senior to comment on his experiences as part of Hamilton basketball.

However he does not announce which senior he will call on until the last moment so that all the seniors must prepare a speech. As one who can also remember when public speaking was mandatory at Hamilton, I smile to think of all those seniors who prepared for a speech they did not have to give and how that preparation helped them later in life.

To those who are at Hamilton and are involved in athletics, I urge you to set as your goal to match Professor Murphy's legacy not in wins or trophies but in instilling the essentials of a liberal arts education for all those who are part of your athletic program.

To Professor Murphy, thank you so much for so many wonderful memories.

Sincerely,
Winton J. Tolles

To Whom It May Concern,

It distresses me to discover that the Keehn Co-Op may fold this year. I lived in Keehn my freshman year at Hamilton by accident and overcrowding. Like many of those who read this letter, I was your typical Hamilton student: white, priviledged and naive. Living with black folks, gay folks, stoners, hippies, geeks and greeks all together really enriched my Hamilton experience and broadened my horizons. It is a shame that students and administration alike cannot also see the benefits of such living arrangements.

How interesting also to read the disputes about the housing lottery in this last issue of The Spec? I remember this trend in my days at Hamilton, when ResLife made it increasingly difficult for seniors to live downtown. For a school so bent on making itself more diverse, why is Hamilton so eager for students to live the same way? I hope that Hamilton College Residential Life resists becomming a big kids' boarding school.

Best Wishes,
James Bentley, '01

To the Editor:

Having read the alcohol coalition's report, I was impressed with the thoughtfulness and quality of the recommendations regarding enforcement, residential life, education, etc. I was happy to see that suggestions students made at the Adler Conference were incorporated into the report, and I believe the coalition has created a blueprint for improving the quality of life at Hamilton.

But when it comes to the issue of private societies, the coalition appears to have veered off the course of making useful recommendations for the reduction of alcohol abuse. These recommendations are nothing more than a call for the excessive regulation and intrusive micro-management of the private affairs of private societies.

The coalition suggests that the college get involved in aspects of private societies that are none of its business, such as whether or not societies are living up to the ideals of their charters, and an evaluation of societies' "successes," "challenges" and "goals."

These recommendations are not only intrusive; they would amount to a pointless waste of time. They would do nothing to address the negative consequences of alcohol abuse in our community as a whole or among Greeks specifically.

Think about it: will some freshman be less likely to down a liter of vodka in his Dunham quad and get EMT'd if my fraternity has to provide the college with a list of our meeting times? Will anyone be less likely to break a window if my brothers and I have to listen to some faculty members tell us whether we are living up to the ideals of our national charter?

I know that not all Greeks share my views on these issues of privacy and independence. Not everyone feels that his or her society would be burdened or compromised by complying with these recommendations.

But if private societies are going to be subjected to this kind of interference and intrusion into their affairs, then it ought to at least serve some useful purpose. It ought to be for a good reason. These recommendations do nothing to address the real issues facing this campus, and therefore they are not worth sacrificing the smallest bit of autonomy for.

- Eric Hawkins '04

Russell Simmons lecture

*from **Simmons**, page 8*

found the lecture insightful and inspirational... like the future rappers on campus. Maybe I'm just ignorant, maybe I'm just naive, but even so, I cannot be silent on this issue as there are many others who were also disturbed by Simmons' talk.

I'd expect in the future that Hamilton will use its funds to secure a speaker who does more to support the school's educational goals: someone with a real message, someone who stands by his or her beliefs, and someone who can avoid using the f-word more than 5 times during the lecture.

To those individuals who planned the lecture, I appreciate your efforts and hope you keep bringing distinguished people to campus. If Russell Simmons was just too lazy to prepare a speech, then it is not your fault.

Believe it or not, I remain a fan of Russell Simmons despite his hypocrisy and controversial views. Though I was disappointed with his lecture, I cannot ignore his charitable efforts and brilliant entrepreneurial spirit. I hope to see Russell Simons back on the Hill one day, but not sponsored by the Womyn's Center or the Office of the President.

Camp Hamilton

*from **Hamilton**, page 10*

tance runner and I'm all for your occasional jog through the woods for some fresh air, but wow, we're kind of weird about maintaining our body image.

Really, if the Viewbook wanted to be honest and portray the reality of Hamilton students and the way they interact, they'd have to go out on a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday night with a flash. They'd find stumblers screaming their way home with a horde of their closest friends. They'd find aggressive and belligerent crowds at ELS ready to pounce on the next open Jitney. They'd find cigarette-smoking posses outside of the Annex and Bundy. They'd find walkers of shame crossing the campus at 5am with a pale face and their eyes locked on the ground they're walking on. If they wandered the hallways of the Residence Halls they'd find open doors with blasting music pouring out, Campus Safety confrontations in doorways and pukers in co-ed bathrooms. That's the Hamilton that I know.

But when it gets a little warm we clean up our acts, polish up our plaids and pleats, whip out the shades and the shamelessly small skirts, and find our flip-flops and Frisbees. If only these poor prospective students knew the real deal when they happen to take those lucky tours that prominently feature our active and attractive student body.

Features

After four years, Hamilton's Public Speaking competition is still going strong

by Kim Payne '04
FEATURES WRITER

As one of the many events hosted by the College over the course of the school year, the Rhetoric and Communication Department holds an annual competition for students interested in flaunting their oratory skills and possibly fattening their wallets. On March 6th, while many of us were packing our swimsuits and preparing for spring break, a few nervous students had their minds elsewhere: the 2004 Public Speaking Competition. For those who made it beyond the preliminary round held on February 21st, March 6th was the big kahuna; an opportunity for the finalists to strut their stuff while sharing some good information with the community.

The competition consists of three separate prizes: the Warren Wright Prize in honor of Warren E. Wright, the Upson Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory at the college from 1977-1993; the McKinney Prize in honor of Charles McKinney, who donated a portion of his estate as incentive for "diligence and proficiency in [the oratory] department;" and the Clark Prize, remembering Aaron Clark as well as the later Fayenweather estate. Administered under ancient guidelines, these prizes are available to any full-time student who is willing to spend the time doing the research and practicing their speech for hours in front of the mirror. All that is required is a Hamilton transcript and a patient roommate.

PHOTO COURTESY OF C&D

Mike Blaise '07.

This is the fourth year that the competition has been up and running, and the event undergoes modifications from one year to the next. As Professor Catherine Kaha points out, the Rhetoric and Communication Department is consistently trying to think of ways to continue increasing the number of the participants in the competition. Since its inception, the department has added a coach (a facilitator to students providing summaries of judges' comments as well as video recordings of speeches for the finalists) and a website to increase campus-wide as well as off-campus awareness of the event. In addition, what was once a week-day competition is now held on the weekend to accommodate a greater number of spectators, including busy students and faculty. That way, for those of us who can't bear to do work on a Saturday morning, we can all go and support our fellow students as they battle it out in the chapel in front of a panel of judges and members of the community.

While the competition is a successful event every year - showcasing the hard work and talent of Hamilton's rhetoricians - Professor Kaha emphasizes that there are still more changes in the works. The department is considering presenting finalists with printed invitations not only to emphasize the formality of the occasion, but simply for participants to share with their friends and family. Also, there's a chance that there will be a separate prize for the one speech that the judges pick as their favorite, out of all the speeches in the competition. However, Kaha also emphasized that these are all things that will be discussed further by the Rhetoric and Communications department, and may or may not be implemented as they begin to look toward next year's competition.

Professor Kaha regrets that one of the shortcomings of the competition is that it "is set up as winners and losers" and that "students don't realize they're all to be applauded," but she continued on to say that she has the "utmost respect for all those students who decided to rise to the challenge." A congratulations goes out to all competitors; the event was a success and it was each and every participant who made it possible. Until next year, start doing your research and sharpening your tongues; you never know, there just might be some prize money in it for you.

Kirkland alumna returns to the Hill, will deliver lecture on law in cyberspace

by Sarah Gould '05
FEATURES EDITOR

In a lecture set to take place next week, Janet Sternberg, a 1975 graduate of Kirkland College, will tackle the issue of enforcing laws in cyberspace. Her talk, entitled "Legal Dilemmas in Transnational Cyberspace," is the product of years devoted to exploring the boundaries of enforcing laws in cyberspace.

Sternberg graduated from Kirkland with a BA in French and Spanish, ultimately going on to Cornell University to pursue her Master's degree in linguistics. She cut her stint at Cornell short after deciding that the field of linguistics focused too narrowly on theory and form, versus real-world applications dealing with actual people. Her disenchantment with the world of linguistics led her to drop out of graduate school and enter the business world, where she worked with computers and a growing reliance on the internet and cyberspace.

Sternberg enrolled at New York University to finish her Master's in Media Ecology and presented her dissertation, called "Misbehaviors in Cyberspace." Her studies focused on deciding where the line is drawn between misbehavior and crime on the internet. Because no singular nation places universal restrictions on the internet, cyberspace is essentially an unrestricted territory. The difference between an internet prank and an internet crime remains undefined, and Sternberg maintains the conviction that it is impossible to get the whole world to agree on what constitutes an online crime. "How could we ever have a law that satisfies everyone," she asks.

The core of the problem, as Sternberg sees it, is that when we try to apply "laws based in jurisdictions and geography" and try to apply them to cyberspace, it doesn't work. The internet environment is a relatively new landscape, exempt from the national laws of just one nation. For example, the First Amendment has no relevance or meaning in cyberspace. People from all over the world, coming from thousands of different angles and political contexts, log into internet communities. "The more we try to make law fit into cyberspace, the more we waste our time," Sternberg asserts.

Now a Professor of Communication and Media Studies at Fordham University, Professor Sternberg is thrilled to be coming back to the Hill. She describes Hamilton as a place "that was very important to me" and that she continues to hold a "real appreciation for the education I got here."

Happy April Fool's Day... oh wait, that was yesterday.

We realize that is not even remotely funny.

What can writing for the Features section give you? *Glory, fame, and happiness!!* If you're interested, please contact either sgould@hamilton.edu or jkuhl@hamilton.edu. It's the gift that keeps on giving...

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Does this Administration *not care*? Raising our tuition 5.2% is a BIG deal!

by Jon Kuhl '06
FEATURES EDITOR

On Monday, March 8, as I began my week of midterms and papers before spring break, a piece of bad news arrived in my inbox. Apparently, for the second consecutive year, Hamilton College had decided to raise tuition. Next year, as a student attending this college, I, along with my peers, will be responsible for paying Hamilton $39,525. While I do understand the pressing financial needs of this institution, I find this tuition hike, along with the way in which it was announced, extremely cavalier.

Beginning with the sheer size of the 5.2 percent increase in the "comprehensive fee," Hamilton's expenses are spiraling out of control. Last year, Hamilton increased the comprehensive fee by 4.9 percent. Based on this trend, if Hamilton continues to raise its fees by approximately 5 percent, students from the class of 2009 will be paying over $50,000 a year. For argument's sake, if we (the students) have children in the next eight years (a scary prospect), and these kids grow up to attend Hamilton in 2030, we will be paying $147,561.85 a year to send them to our alma mater.

It certainly does make sense for tuition and other fees to go up over time, but 5.2 percent is simply too high. According to the National Statistics Office, inflation in 2003 was 1.3 percent, which clearly is not even close to Hamilton's concept of the term.

Along with this discrepancy between inflation and the tuition increase, it is also troubling how far from our competitors we seem to be on this financial issue. Williams, which is ranked number one in the liberal arts college category in the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings, only charges its students $33,750 for tuition, room, and board, according to their website. Even Colgate, which is located only twenty minutes from our prestigious location, costs less than we do.

While statistics may be interesting, there is also a human element to this increase that, in my opinion, has largely been ignored. For many people, including myself, tuition and other expenses were factors in choosing a college. With this in mind, the $1,965 increase that we are being asked to bear deserves more than a quick email. This number means tighter family budgets, bigger loans and a lot of stress for many Hamilton students and their parents.

At Hamilton, I like to think that I am part of a community. As part of this community, it bothers me that the decision to raise our tuition seems to have been made with very little empathy and consideration for us students. Although raising tuition is still raising tuition, former President Tobin seemed to approach this sensitive topic with a little more understanding than has been the case this year.

Reporting our tuition increase this past March, President Stewart stated the following, "To offset increased expenses for utilities, salaries, benefits (which are growing 9.8 percent), costs associated with operating the first phase of the new Science Center, and the building of a new electric power substation, our comprehensive fee will increase 5.2 percent."

In contrast, reporting on the same Board of Trustees meeting last year, former President Tobin stated the following, "The Board approved an overall 4.9 percent increase in the comprehensive fee... The Board did not approve this increase without concern for the effect that raising tuition will have on our students and their families in a very difficult economy." Perhaps it's nothing more than semantics, but I appreciated at least knowing that students' concerns were being considered.

Clearly, there is no easy solution to our college's financial situation, but asking students to shoulder such a large portion of this burden is not the answer. If nothing else, Hamilton should freeze the cost of tuition for the entering class of freshmen each year. It seems to me that it is only fair to let students know how much they will be paying each year, as it does factor into most students' decision of whether or not to attend Hamilton. If nothing else, show a little compassion.

Call for Recommendations
Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award

The Nominations Committee of the Alumni Council invites members of the on-campus community, alumni, and others to provide the Committee with recommendations for the annual Hamilton College Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award. In October, the Alumni Council will act on the nomination put forward by the Committee. The formal award presentation will take place at Hamilton during the Spring 2005 meetings of the Alumni Council.

The purpose of the award is to recognize an employee who has substantially contributed to Hamilton through distinguished performance in his or her position and through involvement in student, alumni or other activities in the College community. At the time of selection, the individual will be an active member of Hamilton's faculty, administration, staff, or maintenance and operations. Distinguished Service Award honorees to date: Eugene M. Tobin (2003) and Carole A. Bellini-Sharp (2004).

By September 8, 2004, please forward suggestions to the Alumni Secretary - Dean Abelon, Office of Communications and Development, Hamilton College, 198 College Hill Road, Clinton, New York 13323, or dablelon@hamilton.edu. All suggestions should include the candidate's name, position at the College, justification for the recommendation, and the name and contact information of the person submitting the suggestion.

The justification should be detailed and should cite specific examples of outstanding performance. All suggestions will be presented to the Nominations Committee of the Alumni Council in the format in which they are submitted to the Alumni Secretary.

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Origins and Futures: A critic's response

Alex Taylor '07 reviews the new Suzanne Anker exhibit

Having just attended the Whitney Biennial, an exhibition organized around the spectacle of pop scribbling and carnival lighting, I found Suzanne Anker's recent lecture at the Emerson gallery a sober anti-thesis to the retro fetish of the New York scene. For unlike Elizabeth Peyton whose watered down renderings of Julian Casablancas are now referenced in the same hushed tones as an old master Ms. Anker's work explores an emerging aesthetic of present day concern and not a retread.

Beginning with the visual juxtaposition between a da Vinci sketch of the human anatomy and a text book rendering of the DNA form, Ms. Anker's lecture followed the evolution of man's self image from that of flesh and blood to a minimalist sum of ones and zeroes. DNA, what Francis Crick called the golden molecule, is increasingly a cultural signpost of the grotesque. What radioactive bugs were to the fifties, day-glow mice and Michael Jackson's face have emerged as symbols of a "contemporary chimera." And judging by the prices fetched at auction for the so called shock art of the Saatchi gallery, such that the frozen placenta head busts of artist Marc Quinn, one can now speak of a so called aesthetic of genetics.

C&D

Suzanne Anker creates works of art of the human genome. Come see her exhibit in the Emerson Art Gallery.

Ms. Ankers own silkscreen and mixed media sculpture works broadly trace the semi grotesque trajectory from a fleshy, primitive humanism to a minimalist and ascetic future, all test tubes and stainless steel. Origins and Futures, the title piece of the exhibition places bleached white sculptures of embryos amongst pyrite rocks and a gleaming table and the contrast is vampiric. Her Cyberchrome Chromosome (Hippopotamus) replicates the animal's thirty-six chromosomes in brillo pad form that conjures the abstracted totem Venus of Willendorf, connecting a primitive articulation of the absolute against the modern conception of the natural world as up for grabs.

As sculpture, Ms. Anker's pieces are too esoteric to be read formally. Her best work, the series of framed silkscreen titled Codex Genome, remains recognizable largely because it is firmly established within the tradition of Western art. The repetition of genome and human forms broadly links the 'genetic aesthetic' to the abstracted language of Egyptian hieroglyph and, one thinks Walter De Maria's monumental Equal Air Series at the Dia Beacon. Like De Maria, Ms. Anker's work articulates the most basic translation between form and language.

What's next for fantasy film?

Brian Sweeney comments on post-*Lord of the Rings* fantasy cinema

There has been much discussion about how the recent *Lord of the Rings* films have revived interest in fantasy films. Now that the run of *The Return of the King* is winding down, after having broken many records and being the first fantasy film to win the Best Picture Oscar, it is time to see what will become of the genre. Unfortunately, the sad truth is that *The Lord of the Rings* could possibly do the opposite and in the end be the final nail in the coffin of the fantasy genre in film.

How is that possible, you ask? Well, look at the effect that Tolkien's book trilogy had on fantasy. It has been fifty years since the books were released and rather than inspire many authors to create their own fantastic and mythological worlds the books have inspired authors to recreate time and time again *Tolkien's* fantastic and mythological world. Go to the local Barnes & Noble and you'll find countless books in the fantasy section that are exactly like *The Lord of the Rings*. Now, of course Tolkien is not the only quality fantasy author, and he certainly was influenced by many of the authors that preceded him, but there is a difference between being influenced by someone's work and creating a work in the same vein, and being influenced by someone's work and emulating it (more often then you would believe) to the tee. I make sure to put down any fantasy book that begins discussing a sad, but beautiful elvish race. So as Neil Gaiman and many others have observed, the genre that should be the most original and most inventive has, in the past fifty years, often been just the opposite.

Though there are signs that this trend may be changing in the world of literature with a lot of original and interesting work emerging in the past few years, the lack of originality could only be beginning in the film world. It may be cliché to blame them, but if there will be any problems, then it's the studio executives who will probably cause them. They could look at the success of *Rings* and try to find out (incorrectly) why it became a success and then emulate it, which will result in a *Legolas* equivalent in every fantasy film for the next few years. So they'll look to emulate the superficial things – action, effects, scale – without realizing the real reason why those films and most other

*see **Fantasy**, page 15*

Confronting Strangers: Beyond the Asian Myths

Linwood Rumney '04 discusses a series of talks concerning Asian issues

2004 marks the third consecutive year students have organized a series of talks around Asian issues. "Confronting Strangers: Behind the Asian Myths," generously funded by the Office of the President, is becoming something of a tradition at Hamilton that, with luck and hard work, will continue for years to come. Many people may wonder what the student series can contribute to life on the Hill and why we feel compelled to organize and participate in this series. I will address those questions and introduce the participants and projects of the 2004 "Confronting Strangers" series.

The intent behind the series is to challenge potentially harmful assumptions and stereotypes made in the U.S. about people of Asian heritage. Most of us no doubt recognize that there are many myths in the U.S. regarding what it means to "be Asian," from the relatively benign "Asians like rice" to the absurd and implicitly violent, "Asian women are submissive and exotic" and "Asian men have small penises and are good at fighting," just as we recognize that sexism is a real problem and that there is a lot of snow in Upstate New York. Though acknowledgement of stereotypes is a very important step in counteracting them, we must discuss these myths more profoundly if we want to progress beyond them, individually and as a community. To move beyond the Asian myths demands nothing less than research, open discussion, action, and, above all, curiosity.

I place curiosity above all else for two reasons. First, the others (research, etc.) are the products of curiosity. For example, one must be at least mildly curious about an issue to research it. Second, stereotypes are the products of apathy, ignorance and generalizations, to which the only remedies are concern and inquisitiveness, both of which I identify as aspects of curiosity. Thus, our goal through the lecture series cannot be to replace stereotypes about Asian-ness with some knowledge we might presume to possess of what it "really means to be Asian." I, for one, would never be comfortable claiming to have such authority to discuss an identity that I could never legitimately claim as my own.

*see **Myths**, page 16*

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The Chronicles of Narnia, His Dark Materials and the Trojan War come to the big screen

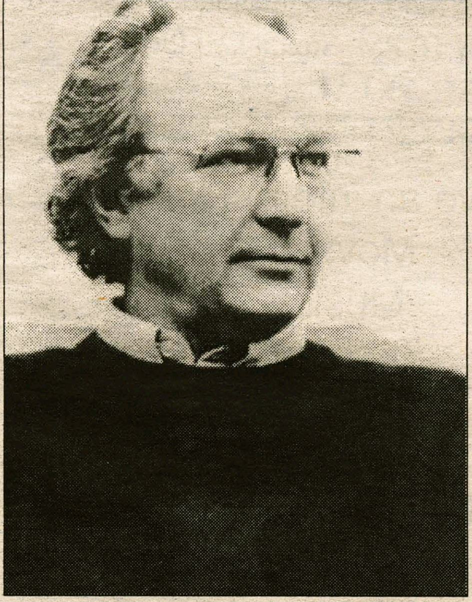
*from **Fantasy**, page 14*

films, are true hits – story.

It will be interesting to see if this actually occurs. First though, studios will certainly attempt to buy up any relatively popular fantasy project that they can find and film it as soon as possible. Will they have the ability to realize that they must do justice to their source material to be even remotely successful? Or will they just try to make a big effects movie that they can churn out relatively (key word is relatively) cheaply and quickly? I don't know. There are some projects that make me think that Hollywood has learned a lesson from Jackson and New Zealand, and some that make me think that they really haven't. Here are some of the upcoming fantasy projects that I think have potential:

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

Release Date: Christmas 2005
Director: Andrew Adamson (*Shrek*)
Based on the series by C.S. Lewis
Description: (from narnia.com) "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe…concerns a war between good and evil, pitting the magnificent lion Aslan against the forces of darkness in the magical world of Narnia. A White Witch has used her dark powers to keep Narnia in winter for 100 years, but it is foretold that four humans will be able to help Aslan break the spell. When the Pevensie siblings - Lucy, Susan, Edmund, and Peter - discover the magic of Narnia by entering the enchanted world through a wardrobe, the stage is set for a classic battle of epic proportions."


TRASHOTRON.COM

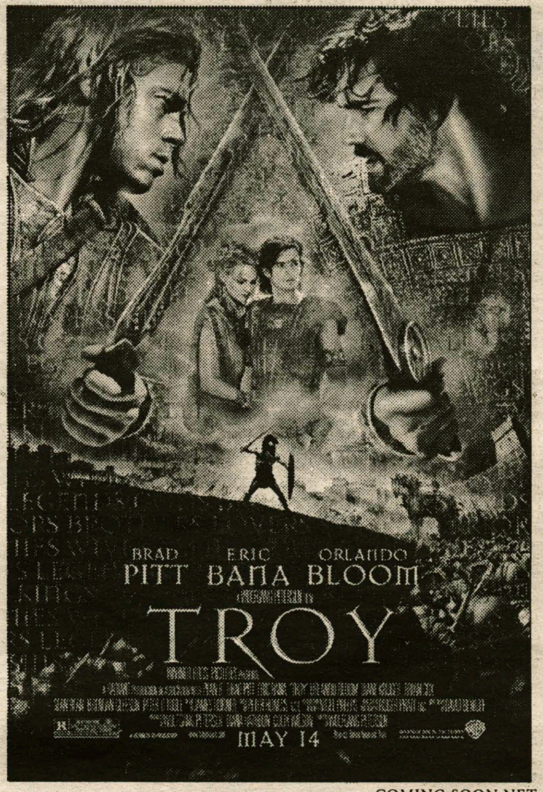
Author Philip Pullman's fantasy trilogy, *The Dark Materials*, will be adapted for the screen in 2005.

There are a lot of people who have great admiration for Lewis and these books (I not being one of them) who probably were depressed by narnia.com's press release that opened by saying: "The Walt Disney Studios has entered into an agreement with Walden Media to co-finance and distribute the long-awaited motion picture *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, the first book published in C.S. Lewis' famed series…" Is the situation that bad though? It depends on the involvement of Disney. They are probably the financers of the production rather than the producers, which means that Walden would make the movie and Disney would fund it – which is what the situation is with Pixar (but not for long). So if that is the case then it all depends on Walden. I never liked *Shrek*, so I'm not sure that Andrew Adamson is necessarily the ideal director of the project, but I had absolutely no confidence in that unknown director from New Zealand when I heard about him some five years ago.

There have been some casting rumors so far, but nothing solid. Nicole Kidman was reported to have flown down to the production offices for a meeting, but that was quickly denied by Walden Media. She was rumored to be playing the White Witch. They are going the right route in terms of visual effects with Weta Digital on the job, the wizards who brought the effects in *Rings* to life; They are also filming in New Zealand. So could this actually succeed? They seem to be making good choices at the moment, but before some more news is available I would say, if you love the books, that at this point all you can do is hope that they don't screw it up.

His Dark Materials

Release Date: 2005/ 2006 ?
Director: Unknown
Based on the trilogy by Philip Pullman.
Description: In an alternate world that is like our own but different in many subtle ways, Lyra Belacqua, a twelve-year old living at Jordan College of Oxford, is about to become a central figure in a war where people and creatures across worlds taken on the authority of the Church and Heaven itself. But what role will she play? Loosely based on Milton's *Paradise Lost*.



COMING SOON.NET

Eric Bana, Brad Pitt, and the Trojan Horse battle it out in this summer's blockbuster *Troy*.

I think that Pullman's books are absolutely wonderful, and I can't wait to see this story brought to life. New Line Cinema and Mark Ordesky are working now on the pre-production of the film with Tom Stoppard, the author of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, and writing the script - something that surely made Philip Pullman very happy. There has not been any casting news or even reliable news on who will direct, but there should be some announcements coming soon. Frankly, some of the directing rumors were so horrendous that I wont even repeat them.

A big issue in this film is going to be the religious controversy that will surely erupt over it. If people have problems with *Harry Potter,* wait until they see this! New Line is trying to scale down the religious criticism but I, and a great many people, will not be happy if that happens. I'm sure there will be a lot of protest by the people who were appalled that Jewish people would dare to protest *The Passion of the Christ*, but they have proven that no matter your concerns are with a film then you should just let the movie come out. But they'll never realize their hypocrisy - nor will they fail to go nuts even if New Line scales the religious content down. So, New Line better just bite the bullet and go all out.

Troy

Release Date: May 2004
Director: Wolfgang Petersen
Starring: Brad Pitt, Eric Bana, Peter O'Toole, Sean Bean, Orlando Bloom, Diane Kruger, and Brian Cox.
Description: If you don't know at least something about this story then you should probably read a bit more. This movie will probably choose to depict the entire Trojan War, as opposed to The Iliad which starts towards the end of the war and ends before the Trojan Horse. So expect this film to start with Paris bringing Helen back to Troy and end with the fall of Troy (sorry if I ruined it for you).

The big question with this is: will there be anything more then breathtaking effects and awe-inspiring battle scenes? Hopefully. Early reviews seen to think that the portrayal of Hector is dead on, and their surprise at the lack of screen time that Brad Pitt has as Achilles probably bodes well too. I'm not saying that because I don't dislike Pitt - I actually think he's pretty good for the role - I'm saying it because Achilles doesn't have too much screen time in *The Iliad*.

The only thing I worry about in terms of character is the portrayal of Patroclus, Achilles best friend, who apparently comes off as a Jimmy Olsen type character. I would also have liked to see them integrate the gods into the film, but other than Achilles immortal mother the rest don't seem to make it to the final cut.

So those are just a few of the big films coming out. There are definitely others, but these have the biggest potential to actually make an impact. Will they do their source materials justice? Only time will tell.

Weekend Box Office Chart
(Weekend Gross/**Total Gross**)

1. *Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed* (30.7M / **30.7M**)
2. *The Ladykillers* (13.0M / **13.0M**)
3. *The Passion of the Christ* (12.5M / **315.0M**)
4. *Dawn of the Dead* (10.3M / **43.9M**)
5. *Jersey Girl* (8.3M / **8.3M**)
6. *Taking Lives* (6.5M / **21.7M**)
7. *Starsky & Hutch* (6.3M / **76.9M**)
8. *Hidalgo* (5.4M / **56.5M**)
9. *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (5.4M / **16.7M**)
10. *Secret Window* (5.4M / **40.7M**)

Take another look: *A Clockwork Orange*

Garrett Butler '07 reviews Stanley Kubrick's violent opus

Stanley Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange*: a directorial and screen-writing masterwork that won the New York Film Critics Award, Oscar nominations for best film and best director, and countless other academy awards including best screenplay. Regardless of the striking artistic value of this film, verified by an overwhelming critical response that has secured the film and Kubrick as movie legends: *A Clockwork Orange* will most likely be forever damned to the mass of notoriously violent Vietnam era films that many uninformed movie-goers shy away from.

A telling example, IMDb (Internet Movie Database) lists the movie with the quote, "A dark, violent, and twisted masterpiece," and my only reaction was frustration. Certainly there is respect for the film in this comment, but it is overshadowed by the sense of fear and near condemnation in these words. Granted, the intensely violent and sexual subject matter is there, but it holds purpose and is directly adapted from the original Anthony Burgess novel of the same name. In fact, the novel's descriptions of the main character, Alex, and others, atrocious acts are softened for the silver screen.

Sit back, enjoy a cold glass of milk and cocaine, and watch Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange*.

However, the novel is an unequivocal tale of redemption with a final chapter describing Alex's reformation following his rehabilitation from the procedure that takes away his free-will that is absent from the film and screenplay. I personally found this chapter unnecessary, as Kubrick must have, because the primary issue the movie presents is the exercise of freedom of choice under the mantle of the state.

I find such a message tremendously typical when our own state continually builds itself larger and stronger for the sake of civil security. A classic path is the reduction of individual rights for the practical and pressing need of social safety and *A Clockwork Orange* is a profound study of this concern in kin with Orwell's *1984*. The impetus behind Alex's psychological restriction against doing evil, performed on him in prison by state scientists, is the practical and timeless concern of domestic acts of violence, in other words, crime.

Alex's moral disposition becomes, in effect, moot after this procedure and released from prison, the now-defenseless Alex suffers the wrath of his victims for his past crimes. By the movie's end, virtually every character has served the role of both victim and perpetrator, and the message comes clear as not moralistic, but humanistic. As Anthony Burgess states in the preface of the novel, "A human being is endowed with free will. He can use this to choose between good and evil. If he can only perform good or only perform evil, then he is a clockwork orange—meaning that he has the appearance of an organism lovely with colour and juice but is in fact only a clockwork toy to be wound by God or the Devil or (since this is increasingly replacing both) the Almighty State. It is as inhuman to be totally good as it is to be totally evil." My fear is that this sentiment is too easily lost on a public that stigmatizes violence, condemning it in art before attempting to understanding.

Now is a perfect time to take another look at *A Clockwork Orange* before the brief lull in work after break gives way to the loathsome and lonesome final workload before freedom. If any violent movie may be worth watching to you, then try this one or I'll begin the development and execution of a campus-wide, strapped-down, eyes-wide viewing *of A Clockwork Orange*.

Lectures Explore Asian Myths

from Myths, page 14

Instead, we question the very use of the word "Asian" as a legitimate category, which we tend to assume is somehow homogenous in specific, innate ways and which we apply to specific people, assuming we know what we mean. We must acknowledge that "Asian" is a problematic term if for no other reason than the reductive way we apply it to a truly diverse segment of the world's population. What, for example, does a peasant in Cambodia have in common with a marketing consultant in Japan or an immigrant from Beijing living in Santiago, Chile? "Asian" means a lot and includes countless personal experiences, but, more often than not, we use it as though it means very little and that the meaning is obvious.

So, why students? As already implied, the series is organized by students and the majority of the participants are students, presenting projects developed outside or to supplement class work. It is our conviction that we cannot confine education to the classroom. Ultimately we cannot afford to depend on our many brilliant instructors to be repositories of truth. In the spirit of Hamilton's liberal arts education, we seek knowledge and wish to inspire dialogue on campus because they are their own rewards. When we engage in intellectual dialogue sincerely, we cannot help but allow the experience to transform us.

As for the participants: I will talk about Vietnamese American poetry, engaging selections from Linh Dinh's *All Around What Empties Out* and *Mong-Lan's Song of the Cicada*. I do not hope to say anything unified about this poetry, quite the opposite - I want to argue for the diversity of Vietnamese American poetry.

Thu Nguyen '04 has three contributions to the lecture this year. First, as you may have already seen, he has photos from his semester in Vietnam hanging in Café Opus. Second, he will give a lecture on Duong Thu Huong, a Vietnamese author whose books have been banned in Vietnam. Third, he will show a video that he made about his experiences abroad in Vietnam. His intention in making the film is not to offer factual knowledge of Vietnam, but to present images of Vietnam that contrast with cinematic presentations of Vietnam in such films as *We Were Soldiers* and *Apocalypse Now*.

Sarah-Marie Gross '07 will focus on China's environmental policies, China's rapid industrialization and the growing need for environmental regulations, not only for China's benefit but also for the benefit of the global community.

Lauren Marquis '04 will discuss her thesis about Japanese housewives, their self-motivated political activity in comparison to political institutions' use of them as agents of change. Lauren says that she finds this topic interesting "because women have been traditionally left out of political analysis, especially those who remain in domestic spheres. Japanese women in particular are seen as passive, non-political actors."

All presentations will be in the Red Pit. Hope to see you there!

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DISNEY'S HOME ON THE RANGE ●12:50●2:40▲4:30-6:30-8:20 DTS PG
THE PRINCE & ME JULIA STILES ●12:00●2:20▲4:40-7:00-9:15 DTS PG
NEVER DIE ALONE ●1:20▲5:20-9:20 DMX R
SCOOBY DOO 2: MONSTERS UNLEASHED ●12:35●2:35▲4:45-6:50-8:55 #1 MOVIE! PG
THE LADYKILLERS TOM HANKS ●12:20●2:30▲4:50-7:05-9:20 R
MEL GIBSON'S THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST ●1:30▲4:05-6:40-9:10 R
STARSKY & HUTCH ●3:15-7:15 PG-13
DAWN OF THE DEAD ●12:55▲5:15-9:35 R
ETERNAL SUNSHINE ●3:00-7:20 JIM CARREY R
W/COLLEGE ID $5 ●MATS FRI-SAT-SUN-WED $4.25▲TWILITES NITELY

This weekend,
The Samuel Kirkland Film Society presents:

The Last Samurai
Starring Tom Cruise
Friday 7 PM, Saturday 9 PM, Sunday 7 PM

21 Grams
Starring Sean Penn andNaomi Watts
Friday 10 PM, Sunday 10 PM
KJ AUD

Have an interest in:
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Then write for Arts and Entertainment!

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The Countdown is on: Spring trip to Antarctica

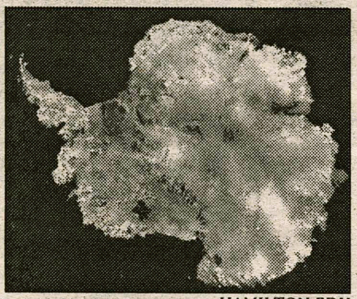
Four members of the Hamilton community head south on April 12

by Stephanie Higgins '04
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDITIOR

On April 12, Stephanie Higgins '04, Gemma Kirkwood '05, Heather Schrum '05, and Professor of Geology Eugene Domack will leave the hill to travel south for the spring-way south!

These brave souls will be heading to Punta Arenas, Chile where they will meet up with The Gould, an ice strengthened research vessel. They will head to the Larsen Ice Shelf–the third largest ice shelf in Antarctica–to test the hypothesis that this shelf system has been a stable component of Antarctica's glacial system for the past 10,000 years. They will be working twelve hour shifts, seven days a week.

This is the third cruise that Hamilton scientists have conducted on the Gould. The recent collapse of the Larsen B Ice Shelf has uncovered areas that were previously out of reach. The team plans to extend an ongoing sediment core stratigraphy to this area, as well as areas immediately adjacent to the Larsen C Ice Shelf. This unique access to the ice shelf front will also allow observations of snow/ice stratigraphy, oceanographic character, and ocean floor character. The debris from glaciers, due to the ice shelf collapse, will also be measured.



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This southern continent is expecting northern visitors.

This will be Domack's twenty fifth year in the Antarctic. He is interested in understanding global climate change and has studied the environmental variability that is enclosed in glacial marine sediments along the Antarctic Peninsula.

Schrum, a geology major and mathematics minor, is currently working on an independent study with Domack entitled "Antarctica: Skimming the Surface," in which she explores the influence of humans on the Antarctic. Research done while on the cruise will be the focus of her senior thesis. Kirkwood, a double major in Geology and Mathematics, is interested in global climate change as well as mathematical modeling. She conducted research at Hamilton College in geomicrobiology with Dr. Mike McCormick during the summer of 2003.

Higgins' thesis *Exploring the Use of 226Ra Alpha Spectroscopy in the Development of a Sedimentation Chronology of the Antarctic Peninsula* is nearing completion. She will continue her research aboard the Gould this spring.

You can learn more about the expedition and keep up to date with their journey at http://onthehill.hamilton.edu/news/exp/antarctica/2004/.

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Prof. Eugene Domack.

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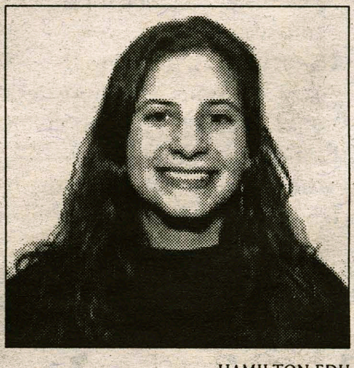
Stephanie Higgins '04.



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Heather Schrum '05.

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Gemma Kirkwood '05.

Professor Raybeck and students attend CONTACT conference in California

by Whitney Bull '06
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WRITER

Over spring break, Professor Raybeck, Sushrut Archaya '05, Tamer Farooqui '04, Katie Forster '04, and Mike Gruen '06, all students in the "Solsys - A cultural simulation" class, attended the 2004 CONTACT conference, "The Challenge of Mars: Past, Present, Future" at the NASA-Ames Center in Mountain View, CA. The Hamilton students, along with Raybeck, presented their work in designing a virtual Mars colony.

CONTACT: Cultures of the Imagination held its first conference in Santa Cruz, California in April of 1983. Cultures of the Imagination (COTI) was founded by Jim Funaro as an intellectual forum to explore the possible outcomes arising from extra-terrestrial contact. As the organization developed, Funaro and other members of COTI, ranging from artists to science-fiction writers, took on roles as aliens and humans to stage possible interactions at conferences. In past years, themes have focused on lighthearted themes or highly improbable situations to more serious, realistic problems facing planetologists, such as near-space settlements.

This year, the conference, as evident in its title, focused on Mars. Notable figures in attendance were keynote speaker, Dr. Michael Sims, and Chris McKay, a chief Mars planetologist. Sims, who holds a B.S. in physics and a Ph.D. in computer science and mathematics from Rutgers, is a researcher for NASA-Ames in the fields of Mars exploration and computational science. He is a leading researching for the well-known Mars Rover Project. McKay has a Ph.D. in Astro-Geophysics from University of Colorado and is a planetary scientist at NASA-Ames.

This year's trip was the second for the Hamilton cultural simulation class. The class, listed as a College Course, draws upon essentially all disciplines within the liberal arts education. Since a broad range of skills are needed to design a self-sufficient colony, Raybeck hand-picks students to participate in the class. He first sends out an e-mail to all upperclassmen to elicit interest. Those students who are interested submit a two-page application to Raybeck.

PHOTO BY DOUG RAYBECK

"The Solsys- A Cultural Simulation Class" travels to California.

"This is the only class at Hamilton in which the instructor picks the students," Raybeck commented. "I look for highly-motivated students who want to succeed." While there is no concrete pre-requisite, Raybeck has certain positions which need to be filled in the class. For instance, he always needs a student with a strong background in physics to aid in the engineering and construction components of the colony. Raybeck also stressed that majors are not necessarily the indicator of what skills a student can bring to the project.

"One year, I had a dance major participate in the program. It was her hobby - her knowledge of nutrition - which she lent to the development of the colony."

Raybeck has been teaching this course for twelve years. "The three goals of the class are one, to strengthen computer skills (less important), two, to learn to work cooperatively, and three, to develop problem-solving skills," he said. The only premise that remains constant is the initial problem: imagine that you are 75 years in the future and in near space. The direction of the class is entirely student driven. Locations in past years have included Mars, the moon, underwater, and the asteroid belt. After choosing a location, the students then elect each other characters. This year, Professor Raybeck serves as the janitor. Other roles include the captain, chief of construction, chief of recycling, and so on. A computer specialist is working closely with the class to produce a visual representation of the base.

Katie Forster '04 describes the development process:

"The development of the colony involves planning every detail from how we're going to get there, how we're going to build the colony, what our economy's like, what to do in the event of an infectious disease... pretty much anything you can think of has been covered." Mike Gruen '06 elaborated on the process, using the example of the Chief of Construction to demonstrate the integral roles each student plays.

"The Chief of Construction designs the layout of the base, taking input from the psychiatrist to make sure the place is livable and from the chemist/physicist to make sure that the base is usable, etc."

Raybeck also stressed the importance of teamwork in the process.

"The success of one student really depends on the success of the other students. Everything has to dovetail."

For more information on the CONTACT conference, http://www.contact-conference.com provides a detailed history and program of the conference. To learn more about Hamilton's colony, you can attend the class's presentation on May 5 in the Red Pit, where each student will take on the persona of their role in the development and explain the process to the audience.

Geek of the Week: Lauren Dentone

Jennifer Ruch interviews this sciencey senior

Name:
Lauren Dentone

Class year:
I go to class two days a week after 1pm, what year do you think I am?

Major:
Psychology and classics

Any interesting plans after Hamilton?
You NEVER ask a second semester senior that question!

Extracirricular activities at Hamilton:
Hmmmm, what is an appropriate answer?

Do you have any thoughts on malingering, or have you encountered any malingering students lately?
Thoughts, no. As for malingering students on campus...how many times have you "faked ill" to get out of work?

Would you consider yourself a hypochondriac?
Have you looked into a beirut cup lately?

Thoughts on Freud... kill, screw, marry?
All of the above...but maybe not in that order.

If you could have any psychological abnormality, which one would it be and why?
Oooh, how can I pick just one? But I will have to go with Agateophobia (HA! only realy psych geeks will get my oozing irony) Oh or maybe Arachibutyrophobia, damn that peanut butter.

Favorite psych theory?
Belief in a Just World, that's right instant karma for all you badasses out there.

Favorite statisitcal test?
Are you serious with these questions? I guess I'd have to say the F- Test, definitely.

Stimulating psych experiments from the past and significant findings?
Is this a psych experiment?

B.F. Skinner or Pavlov. Go.
Where?.... Oh I get it...Ha! Hands down-Pavlov, if all I had to do was ring a bell and someone would salivate...imagine the possibilities.

Self Esteem rating on a Rosenberg Scale?
Deuce and a half, nah I don't know - I just like to say deuce.

Most successful pick up/ suduction line?
Come stroke my ego baby!

Id, Ego, or Superego?
Eve Black.

Favorite lab animal?
You mean lab creature- The earth worm, definetly the earth worm.

Professor with the most comfortable chair?
Tara's recliner!

Plans for the weekend?
With all the wonderul choices, I am at a loss for words.

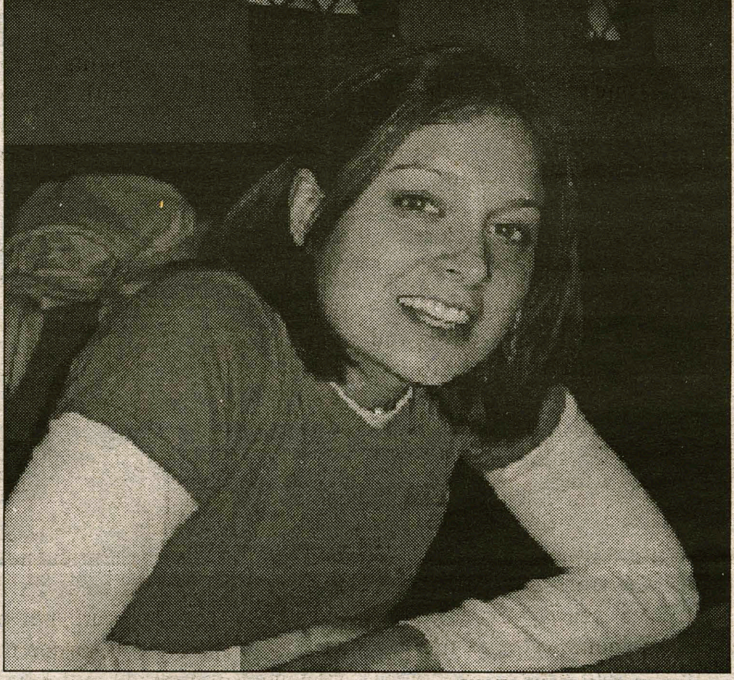


PHOTO BY SARAH MATINGLY '05

Lauren Dentone '04 talks about love, life and Freud.

What the Geo kids did over Break: Spring Break, DC

by Jennifer Ruch '06
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Every year students, professors, and geology professionals all over the country gather for the Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America. This was a special year for the GSA because the Northeastern and Southeastern sections had a joint meeting March 25 - 27 in Washington, DC. Cindy Domack, Professor of Geology, took six of her students as well as one of Professor Sharon Kanfoush and Professor Eugene Domack's students. These Geology majors, current seniors and members of the class of 2003 presented their senior thesis research and poster projects at the meeting.

Each student presented her project individually. Domack enthusiastically notes that she was "very impressed that each student completed their own work and then went on to present their projects at a professional geology meeting." The students had to submit their abstracts back in November 2003 and then waited to be accepted at this technical session.

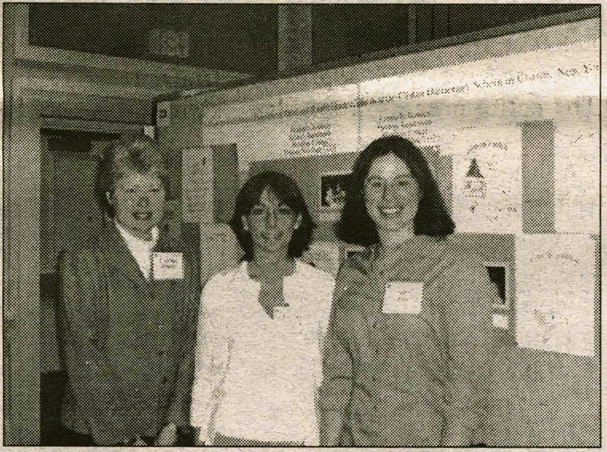


PHOTO BY CINDY DOMACK

Hamilton students and Cindy Domack in front of their projects, Geoscience Education.

Students represented two sessions. Heather Johnson '03 and Amy Landauer '04 were in the Geoscience Education technical session. The other five students were placed in the Undergraduate Research technical session. Amanda Waite '03, Patricia Kowalski '03, Sarah Nagel '04, and Kristin Dillner '04 completed projects relating to field-oriented paleontology. Gillian Chapman '04 (under the supervision of Kanfoush and Gene Domack) presented a marine geology project. Students from both the Geoscience Education session and the Undergraduate Research session demonstrated more than the typical undergraduate work and effort, since they were selected to present their projects at the annual GSA meeting amongst professionals. Domack adds that Hamilton was well represented and congratulates the hard work of her students.

PHOTO BY CINDY DOMACK

Hamilton students pose after the Undergraduate research technical session.

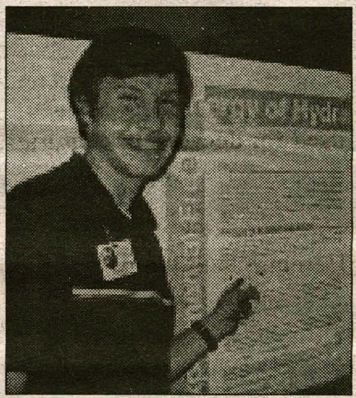
Palascak publishes article in journal

by Lindsey Rubenstein '07
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WRITER

The research of Matthew W. Palascak, class of 2007, was recently published in the Journal of Physical Chemistry. The article, which can be found in the March 18 issue, is titled "Accurate Experimental Values for the Free Energies of Hydration of H+, OH-, and H3O+".

Palascak was one of thirteen freshmen who were selected to spend five weeks researching the sciences at Hamilton before beginning their first year. Working in the lab of George C. Shields, Winslow Professor of Chemistry, Palascak expanded on research which was begun by Matthew D. Liptak '03. His research was first presented at the MERCURY computational chemistry conference. This conference, held in August 2003, was attended by undergraduates from a variety of liberal arts colleges such as Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Connecticut College, St. Lawrence University, Brock University, The College of Wooster, Juniata College, Vassar College, Mount Holyoke College, and Middlebury College.

In December the article was finalized and Shields submitted it to the editor of The Journal of Physical Chemistry over winter break. The editor then sent it out to be reviewed by distinguished chemists who critiqued and investigated the article's content. One such critic stated, "This paper represents a significant new contribution". He later went on to state that he was "very pleased that someone has tackled this issue". On February 20 Palascak was informed that the article had been approved by the journal for publication.



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Palascak '07 publishes in the *Jounral of Physical Chemistry*.

The article contains a detailed explanation of Palascak's research and results, which focus on the development of new free energy values. Palascak started with known values of ΔGs(H+) which were published by previous authors. He then used these and thermodynamic charts to obtain the values for ΔGs(OH-) and ΔGs(H3O+). According to the article, the specific values that the research afforded are "in excellent agreement with the commonly accepted values".

These new free energy values can applied in the process of reassessing the values of ΔGs for different anions and cations. They can also prove invaluable in the future in "assessing the ability of various computational methods to reproduce the free energy of solvation" of the different ions.

WRITE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:
EMAIL JRUCH OR SHIGGINS

Prescription politics and its toll on healthcare

by Louis Vaickus '05
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WRITER

At one point or another almost everyone has used prescription drugs to improve their health and well being. In addition, nearly everyone has bemoaned the cost of these ubiquitous chemical helpers. However, most people are unaware of the massive cost and risk associated with drug development. Even farther from the public consciousness is the complex functioning of the omnipresent Food and Drug Administration in the pharmaceutical market.

Prescription medications have become progressively more expensive over the decades due to a number of technological, political, and economic factors. Perhaps the most important of these cost inflators is the fact that researchers have discovered most of the "easy" drugs already. Pain killers like aspirin, antibiotics like penicillin and anticoagulants like hirudin (derived from willow bark, penicillium mold and leech saliva, respectively) have been used for decades to centuries.

Drug firms now screen tens of thousands of compounds with unknown clinical utility. Herein lies the crux; successful pharmaceutical companies must explore a growing number of chemicals with diminishing positive results, under intense competitive and financial strain and discover something useful. The result is steeply increasing research costs. Even if drug providers agreed to work at the level of zero profit, costs for medication would still be increasing much faster than the rate of inflation.

The process described above is just one aspect of the drug development profile. Simply because a chemical has shown promise in treating a disease does not mean that it will be marketed. In order to be tested in humans, potential drugs must satisfy very demanding criteria. Namely, pharmaceutical companies must present convincing, positive, animal toxicity and dose data to the FDA.

Once satisfactory preclinical data has been submitted to the FDA a pharmaceutical company must prove through human trials that their drug functions as promised, causes minimal side effects and works as well or better than existing treatments for the same disease.

This three step process begins with a phase 1 trial. Generally, a small number of healthy volunteers participate in these initial human studies, evaluating the toxicity and metabolic derivatives of a drug as well as the side effects of increasing doses.

Phase 2 trials investigate the preliminary effectiveness of the drug and its short-term side effects. The subject pool is larger than in phase1 and is composed of patients who suffer from the targeted disease.

Phase 3 trials require a still larger number of disease sufferers and thoroughly evaluate the effectiveness of the drug in question. In addition, benefit/risk analysis is performed to determine whether the therapeutic actions outweigh the drug's negative side effects.

At any point the FDA can put a trial "on hold" if it is deemed unsafe or if the reputed benefits of the drug are not observed. Not all trials that are halted are abandoned but those which have chronic safety issues are usually scrapped.

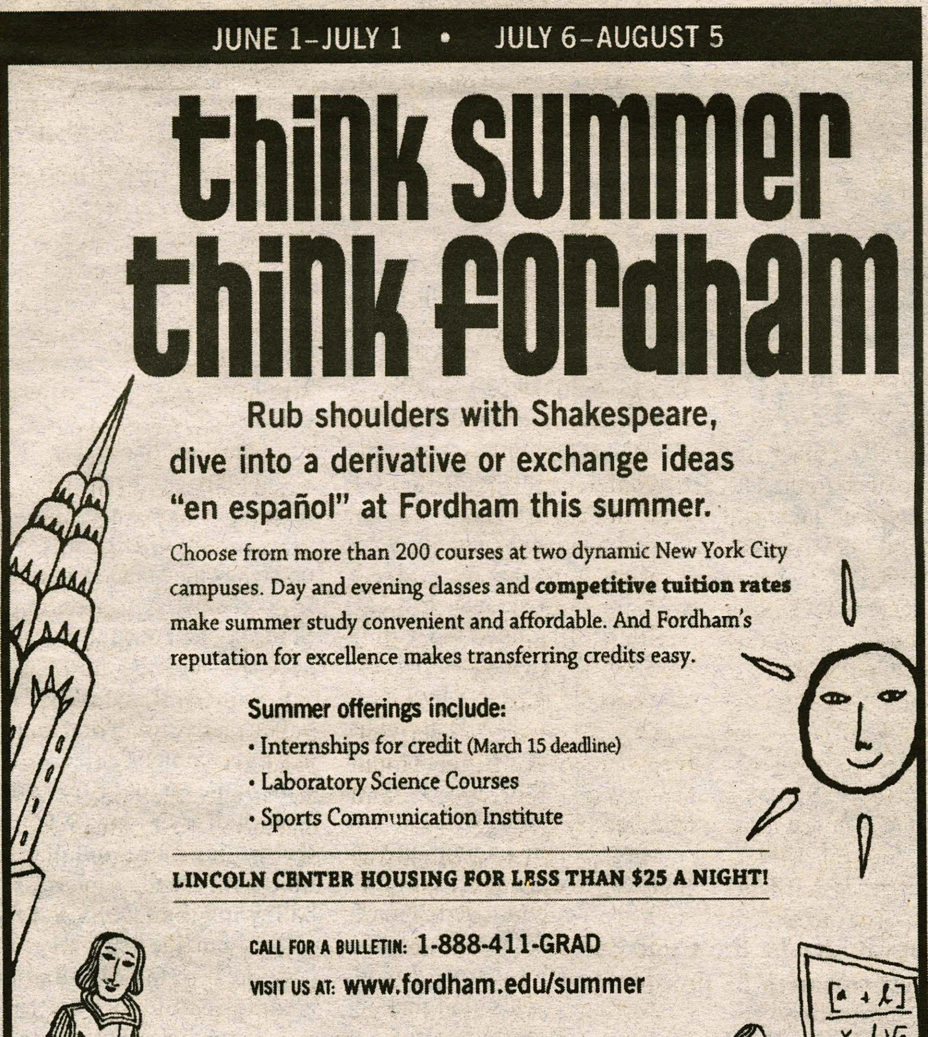
Of the thousands of compounds initially screened a small percentage make it to human trials; roughly 11% of these receive final approval. The entire process from idea to product generally takes 10 or more years. Pharmaceutical companies must absorb the cost of failed research projects and clinical trials. These losses add to the price of the drugs (if any) marketed.

Recent estimates have placed the cost of bringing a drug to the consumer (not counting marketing) at 802 million dollars although some estimates place the value in excess of 1.2 billion dollars. This is a significant expenditure even for pharmaceutical giants like Johnson and Johnson and Merck. For small or new companies that have no marketed product most funding comes from the investment of venture capitalists and banks. There is enormous pressure to succeed because an investment return is vital to the future success of the company.

Once a drug is approved, pharmaceutical companies are granted a patent lasting roughly 11 years during which time they must recoup expenses, fight against competitors, and attempt to profit before generics enter the market. Generic competitors must only synthesize a marketed drug and do not need to conduct clinical trials. This gives them a massive cost advantage over the developer of a brand-name drug. During the useful lifetime of a pharmaceutical compound the innovator can expect to turn a 7-11% profit, roughly the same profit margin as a cardboard box factory.

Before pointing to Canada as an example of the price-glut of American Pharmaceuticals, consider the following. Drug companies that sell to Canada (some refuse to) do so at cost. This loss of profit is translated into higher prices for everyone else. The most cutting edge and effective drugs are available principally in America. As such, Canadians who can afford it often travel to American hospitals for treatment. In addition, the Socialized Canadian health care system has been predicted to go bankrupt within three decades sans enormous funding increases (to levels as high as 50% of the total budget!).

It is important to remember that Americans demand and receive the best healthcare in the world. Our pharmaceuticals are safe, effective and trusted, and the U.S. innovative drug development is second to none. There are worse things than spending money on medicine, consider the alternative.



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SUMMER PROGRAMS 2004
LUX ET VERITAS

Why are so many high school players passing on college?

by Michael Proia '05
SPORTS WRITER

At the age of eighteen, not many of us would turn down a job that would pay five millions dollars a year to play a game every day. But what if that money came with a catch? What if you had to cut ties with every friend you've made since turning thirteen because you can't trust whether or not they just latched onto you for the money? Could you deal with spending the better part of eight months a year traveling from city to city, living out of a suitcase? I know I couldn't handle making these choices at the age of eighteen. I could barely choose which college I wanted to commit to my freshman year.

LeBron James is a unique and special individual. At the age of eighteen, he sacrificed his friends, and the chance at a college education, to live the dream of being an NBA superstar. He has lived up to and even exceeded expectations as a rookie this year, but don't be fooled; making the jump from high school or even college to professional sports can be mentally and physically devastating. Even if the young guns have the body and skills to play in the league, few have the mental capacity to handle the pressure and off-court distractions.

Many sports have rules protecting young athletes and the integrity of the professional game by limiting draft eligibility. Major League Baseball allows teams to draft players upon graduation from high school, but the players have the option to sign and still attend college. If a high school graduate does not sign with a team, the player can enter college, and will not be eligible for the draft until after completion of his junior season.

Until this winter, college football required players to have graduated high school three years prior to becoming draft eligible, meaning most players in the draft are juniors and seniors.

The NBA has only one requirement: a player must graduate with his class from high school. Early graduation does not allow a player to enter the draft. So, over the last eight years, dozens of high school players have tried to make the jump straight to the pros. The names you probably recognize are Jermaine O'Neal, Kevin Garnett, Kobe Bryant, Tracy McGrady, and LeBron. Remember Kwame Brown? How about Tyson Chandler, Eddie Curry, and Jonathan Bender? At least those guys play a little. Kendrick Perkins, Ousmane Cisse, DeSagana Diop, and Lenny Cooke have wasted away either deep on the bench or in the case of Cooke, out of the league. Tony Key, Leon Smith and Korleone Young never got to play a single minute in the league.

This week, the McDonald's All-American game featured 24 of the nation's top high school players, and over a dozen are considering skipping college to go professional. Dwight Howard has already appeared on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*, and will be a Top 3 pick in the NBA Draft this summer, but after that, no one in this group is capable of playing big minutes right away. Shaun Livingston, Robert Swift, Josh Smith, Sebastian Telfair and more have all announced they intend to test the draft pool waters.

The NFL is fighting the lawsuit of Maurice Clarett, a sophomore who is hoping to enter the draft in three weeks. Some say that this will open the flood gates to young players declaring early, but some of the top juniors in college this year have already opted not to enter the draft. They respect the league too much and recognize their own weaknesses.

If the NBA wants to revitalize the league, scouts and general managers need to agree to stop drafting players because they have "potential" and start drafting players with the fundamentals to play the game the right way. Carlos Boozer is one of eight players in the NBA averaging a double-double this year, but because he had little "potential" he managed to slip into the second round of the draft two years ago. Now he is one of the top forwards in the Eastern Conference.

This weekend, fans will pack into the Alamodome in San Antonio to watch the best college players compete in the Final Four. Fans buy tickets to see the best teams and players in the country, and college basketball has not suffered at all from seeing all the early departures. How many fans have bought tickets to NBA games this season to see Cisse or Diop play?

It's easy to get mad at the kids who try to go pro, and tell them it's wrong to take the money and they should go to school. But not many teenagers will turn down that kind of money to do what they love, nor should they. It is up to the NBA to make the correction, and hopefully sometime soon the word "potential" will be thrown out of scouting reports, and high school athletes will go to college and become basketball players, and then the most skilled and mature players will make their way into the league and put the NBA back where it was over a decade ago. Too many kids are faced with the option to go pro or go home, and that's the ultimate injustice in the whole process.

Men's lacrosse squeaks one out against Oneonta, 8-7

Team continues to improve from tough beginning and deal with high expectations

by Mike Osborne '05
SPORTS EDITOR

Because the men's lacrosse team had such high expectations coming into the season, some would say that the team's 3-3 record after six games is a bit disappointing. However, the team and coaching staff would not call the first six games disappointing, and would further say that the team is poised and ready to make a run down the stretch. The team's record could be a result of a young team, which has had to replace some key members from last year's team that reached the national quarterfinals. The team still has its sights set on improving upon last year's success, and that road started over spring break with four games, two of which were played in Florida.

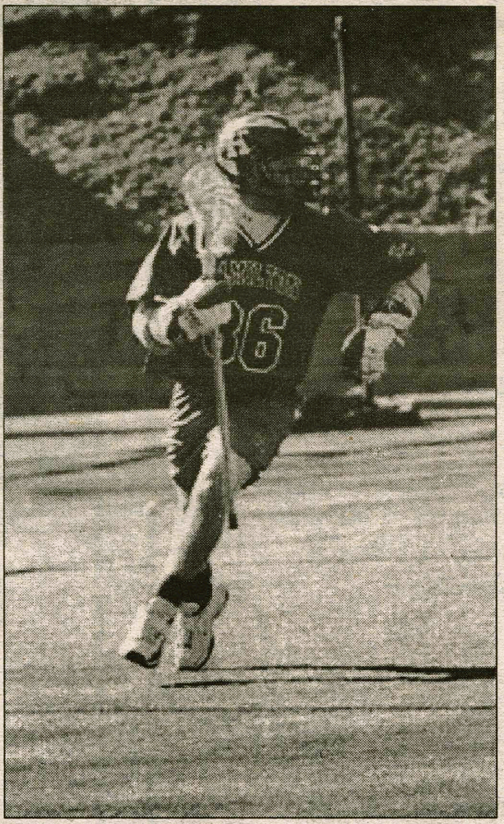
In the Continentals' first game of the 2004 season, the team traveled to Haverford, Pa. to face Cabrini College. Hamilton fell to the Cavaliers of Cabrini by a score of 13-12. Hamilton's offense was paced by Jack Newton '06 (4 goals, 3 assists), Jim Henry '05 (3 goals, 2 assists), and George Earle '05 (3 goals, 1 assist). Also picking up goals for Hamilton were Dan Geiger '04, and Mike Daley '07. Jason Mleczko '04 made nine saves in the loss.

Following the Cabrini game, the Continentals traveled to Orlando, Fla., for two games and a week of fun and practice. Hamilton played its first game in Florida against SUNY Potsdam, a game in which the Continentals picked up their first victory of the season with a score of 10-7. Geiger, Evan Teiger '04, and Eric Luoma '06 all picked up two goals in the game to lead the offense. Mleczko made seven saves in the cage to pick up his first victory of the season.

The Polar Bears of Bowdoin College were Hamilton's next opponent down in Florida. Hamilton dropped to 1-2 on their season with a 13-5 loss. George Earle (2), Dan Geiger, Jack Newton, and Clark Winter '07 all picked up goals in the loss.

The Continentals learned some valuable lessons down in Florida, and Coach Gene McCabe remarked, "We have learned some tough lessons about handling expectations and pressure. Learning these lessons now will make us stronger in the future."

The lessons learned in Florida seemed to carry over into the Continentals' first game back on the Hill as they defeated a previously undefeated Utica College team by a score of 10-5. The Continental offense was paced by Jack Newton (3 goals, 2 assists), Dan Geiger (2 goals, 1 assist), and Jim Henry (1 goal, 2 assists). Scott Cohen '05, George Earle, Evan Teiger, and Travis Modic '07 also picked up goals in the victory. Jason Mleczko earned his second victory of the year by making 17 saves.



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Jack Newton (36) leads the Conts in scoring this season with 25 points.

This past Saturday night, the Continentals faced R.P.I. in their first conference game of the season. R.P.I showed why they are one of the best teams in the league, as they defeated the Continentals 9-7. Hamilton's offense was again paced by Newton (3 goals, 2 assists), Henry (1 goal, 2 assists), Scott Cohen (2 goals), and George Earle (1 goal). Mleczko made 10 saves in the loss. With the loss, the Continentals had their twenty-game home win streak snapped, and they fell to 0-1 in UCAA play.

In the team's most recent game, the Continentals traveled to Oneonta, N.Y. to take on SUNY Oneonta. In a tight game, the Continentals pulled out a victory by a score of 8-7. Dan Geiger scored a game-high three goals to go along with 2 assists in pacing the offense. Newton continued his offensive production by scoring 2 more goals, and picking up 3 assists. George Earle, Scott Cohen, and Kevin St. John '06 picked up the rest of the Hamilton goals. Mleczko recorded 12 saves to lead the Continentals' defense. The Oneonta game evened the Continentals' record at 3-3 on the year.

With a 3-3 record, some would say that the team is underachieving, but Coach McCabe does not believe so. He had the following to say about the team's performance so far this season, "The commitment, the hard work, and the pride the team has demonstrated in the preparation process and their willingness to learn and get better, accept responsibility and do whatever it takes to get the job done has impressed me. This is how I know we are headed in the right direction."

The Continentals will look to increase their offensive production as well as continuing to play strong defense this weekend when they face St. Lawrence in a key UCAA match-up on Saturday at 2 on the turf field. McCabe had the following to say about St. Lawrence: "They have a really strong first midfield and a very athletic defense. They will come at us very strong. They will try to create goals in their riding game and in transition. We need to possess the ball, win groundballs and face-offs, shoot the ball very well, play great in the cage and play great team defense."

With their young players gaining valuable experience, and with strong performances of late, the men's lacrosse team is heading in the right direction toward their goal of a national championship. Although they have had their bumps in the road so far this season, the team is playing well of late, and looks to continue that play this weekend.

Men's tennis rebounds after loss to Middlebury

Vasudeva '04 and Thomas team up to be undefeated in doubles competition

by Mike Hayes '06
SPORTS WRITER

Coach Jamie King is entering his fourth year directing the Hamilton College men's tennis squad with the help of top assistant Coach Dave Ridder and, thus far, it's been a bit of an up and down season for the Conts.

The Continentals have gotten off to a 3-6 start to their 2004 spring campaign, but eagerly look to build some momentum off the second half of their schedule to head into the NESCAC Championships at the end of April. After getting off to a 0-3 record to start to the season, the squad has battled back and has gone .500 over its last six matches. Coach King commented on the team's improvement saying, "We return a pretty good core group of guys including Varun Vasudeva '04, Duncan Cameron '05, Zach Kahn '06, and Brad Polan '06, and these guys know each other pretty well and are beginning to gel real well with one another."

Over break, the team headed south to Orlando, Florida for four matches. The trip started out smoothly as the team easily turned away Knox College in a 7-0 blowout and then snuck past SUNY New Paltz 4-3. However, the latter part of the trip wasn't quite as successful, as the Continentals fell to Babson College and Grinnell College by the scores of 0-7 and 2-5 respectively. "The Orlando trip was a good step for this team," commented Coach King. "We had some success and it added to the overall cohesiveness of the group that is something that is very important."

Most recently, the Continentals enjoyed some success picking up their first NESCAC victory on the road at Connecticut College by defeating the Camels 5-2. Impressively, five Continentals won their singles matches, but the standout in this contest was senior Varun Vasudeva. Vasudeva, playing in the number one singles slot for the Conts, dominated his opponent in straight sets winning 6-2, 6-3 to win his fourth match of the year and first at the number one slot. Duncan Cameron, Mike Rapetti '06, Brian Tilley '05 and Brad Polan were the other four winners for the Continentals. In doubles, Vasudeva cruised once again playing along side doubles specialist Jason Thomas '06 and easily winning with an 8-1 victory. Vasudeva and Thomas remain undefeated for the year in doubles matches, with a record of 4-0.

While the Continentals make and end-of-the-year push, they will rely heavily on the leadership of Jason Thomas and Brad Polan as well as on a steady improvement from the entire team as a whole. "We really look forward to improving every single match heading up until the NESCAC championships," said Coach King. "Coach Ridder has done an excellent job preparing this group every day, and the main thing is to make sure everyone's focus is there."

The Continental tennis squad faces several tough challenges from now until the end of April, starting with a home match against Rensselaer on April 6 at 4:00 p.m. Coach King remains very optimistic with this squad, saying, "The best part about this team is their improved discipline from last year, and we hope to take that discipline into the championships this year and add to our success."

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The tennis team looks to improve on its 3-6 record starting April 6th against RPI at home.

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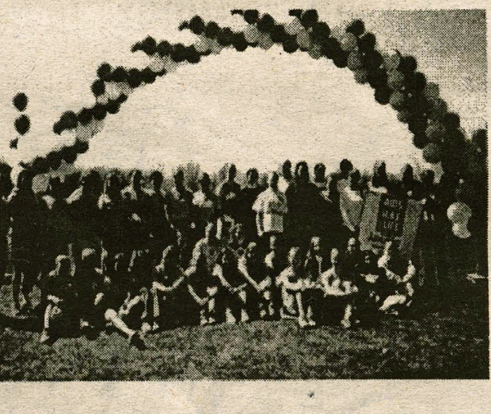

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Hamilton
Class of 2004

Athletes of the week: Lax players Dovi '04 and Stots '07

by Andrew DeCastro '05
SPORTS WRITER

This week's *Spectator Athletes of the week* are Nadia Dovi and Inga Stots. Stots has eleven goals; Dovi leads the defense.

Name: Nadia Dovi
Nicknames: Dov, Dovi, Dov-eye, Nads, Nader
Year: 2004
Hometown: Cortland, NY...that's CNY, not upstate
Major: Psychology
Hobbies: Watching Law & Order, perfecting my beer die game, keeping the attack in check.
Pregame Rituals: Pep talks from Mama McNeil.
Marital Status: Married...no. Sweet, suite love, yes.
Plans for after you graduate: First, I have to complete my thesis, and then I will think about plans for next year. Sarah McNeil, however, seems to think I have a future working at our local CVS.
Why are all the sticks in women's lax the same size: We don't need extra long sticks to play defense, short sticks work just fine for us.
Would you be happier if you could check during the games: Well, if you ever watched women's lacrosse, you would know that we can check. Come to our game against Union on Friday, April 9th and we will demonstrate for you. :)
What are your team's strengths and weaknesses: Our strengths are that we work well together, we push each other in practice, and we play hard. Weaknesses....get back to me on that one.
How do you explain your team's much improved success from a year ago: Mary Ryan's return from Paris huge! Crazy Kim Harrison keeps everyone in line. Our 11 incoming freshies know how to work it.
What happened in your six wins that you didn't have against Nazareth: The refs, well, they were pretty horrible.
Where do you see the lax team advancing: All the way to NCAA's.
What should a single guy know about you: I'm taken; however, there are a multitude of fine, young, attractive, single women on the lax team...come to a game and you might get lucky.
What is harder to play, men's lax or women's lax: For fear of upsetting the 45 males who make up the men's lax team, I will go with the neutral answer and say that they are completely different games and thus impossible to compare. However, I add that we make women's lax look easy.

PHOTO BY LETTY BEDARD '06

Dovi (above) was nice enough to come to the Spec for her picture. Stots however, refused to have her picture taken, saying it was a violation of her modeling contract and added in some expletives that I will not repeat.

Name: Inga Stots
Nicknames: Only X-rated ones
Year: 2007
Hometown: Clinton Corners, NY
Major: Undecided
Hobbies: Field hockey, lax
Pregame Rituals: Listening to music.
Marital Status: Single
What is your position: I play center.
Do you change positions during the game: Nope.
Which is harder: field hockey or lax: Field hockey.
What is your go-to move near the cage: Running it in from the top of the twelve.
What happened in your six wins that you didn't have against Nazareth: Someone had to lose that game, it just wasn't our day. We played hard regardless.
Where do you see the lax team advancing: If we play our game, we will make it to the tournament.
What should a single guy know about you: Are you kidding?
What is your idea of a perfect date: Romantic evening on the beach...hah, I don't know.
What needs to happen for Hamtech lax to be a continued contender: We need to continue working hard. We would love Hamilton's support at our next few home games.

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Baseball battles back to up-end Cazenovia, 18-17

After being down a touchdown, the Continentals score eight unanswered runs

by Andrew Dassori '07
SPORTS WRITER

This year's trip to Florida was a great improvement upon last years spring break trip in which the team only won one game, showing a more exciting, much improved team. This year, the team left Florida with a 3-10 overall record, with impressive wins over Williams, Colby, and Abright. Their wins over Colby and Williams gave them a 2-2 NESCAC record, putting them in second place behind a top 25 nationally ranked Williams squad.

"There was a definite feeling of relief to get outside after spending so much time in the field house," said coach Keady in regard to moving into the warm weather of Florida from Clinton's cold-weather climate. While there, the team practiced as much as possible, but with a 13 game schedule, finding time to work on the fundamentals was tough. According to Keady, "We really do not get to spend much time on practice. Most of our practice opportunity comes before games. Our first game was rained out, and we had only one other day where we had a practice session."

Fortunately, lack of practice did not stop the Continentals from coming within one win of their previous season's total during their trip to Florida.

The most recent Continental game was a back and forth offensive explosion against Cazenovia College. Keady felt that after their time on the near perfect grass in Florida, the field may have had something to do with their mammoth offense, stating, "We hit the ball well. The condition of the field had a tremendous impact on the game." Fortunately, after cooling the opposition down with three straight shutout innings of relief work from Paul Kibbe '05, the Continentals came out on top 18-17.

In this game, captain Tom Bradley '04 stood out with a 3-5 performance, including a home-run and five RBIs. This was Bradley's first game back since an undisclosed injury he suffered in Florida, and from the looks of things, the spark of his bat was exactly what the Continentals needed in their lineup. Coach Keady also praised other standout performers, including Kibbe, stating, "Justin Parker '06, Pat McGarry '07 and Jim Nolan '07 all added two hits. Pat Suarez '07 scored four runs, while Adam Lavallee '05, Justin Parker and Pat McGarry each scored three times. Paul Kibbe shut them down for three innings (6, 7 and 8) to pick up his second win of the year." This win evened the Continentals with their win total of last year, buiding excitement for the upcoming weeks.

Coach Keady talked about some of the key to Hamilton's success.

"The key was that we did not stop playing. We had a poor inning defensively and found ourselves down 7 runs. We got 2 back in the top of the next inning and scored six more to take the lead back the following inning. We had taken control of the game, but there were no objections from our side when the umpire called the game on account of darkness in the top of the ninth inning."

"Baseball becomes quite different with academics and everything else that happens on campus now. We must play one inning at a time and not think about the past or the future."

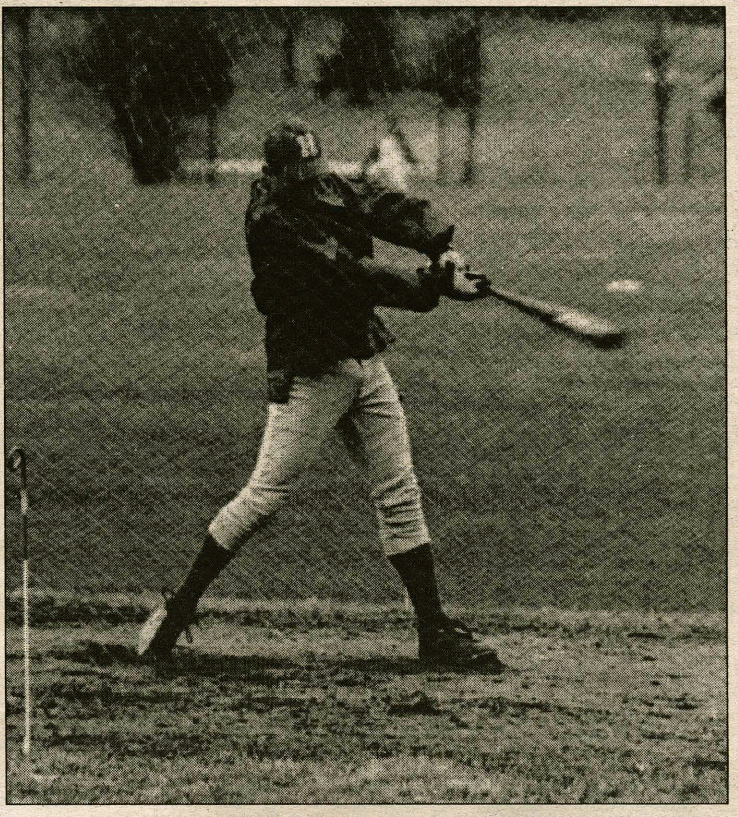

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Hitters need to eliminate strikeouts and do the little things necessary to be successful this Friday.

Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well. If any game ends in a tie, it is not counted.

	Andrew DeCastro *Spectator Sports Editor*	Mike Osborne *Spectator Sports Editor*	Ian Mandel *Spectator News Editor*	Allison Davis *Spectator I&I Editor*	Scott Gordon *Senior Guest #3*
Season Record:	23-16	23-16	27-12	28-11	21-18
NHL					
Ottowa @ Philadelphia 4/2	Flyers	Flyers	Flyers	Flyers	Flyers
Vancouver @ San Jose 4/2	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks	Sharks
New Jersey @ Boston 4/3	Bruins	Bruins	Devils	Bruins	Devils
Buffalo @ Montreal 4/3	Canadiens	Buffalo	Canadiens	Buffalo	Buffalo
Toronto @ Ottawa 4/3	Leafs	Leafs	Senators	Senators	Leafs
NBA					
Indiana @ Detroit 4/4	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit
Sacramento @ Houston 4/4	Houston	Kings	Kings	Kings	Kings
San Antonio @ L.A. Lakers 4/4	Lakers	Spurs	Lakers	Spurs	Lakers
College Basketball					
Duke vs. UCONN 4/3	UCONN	Duke	UCONN	Duke	UCONN
Oklahoma State vs. Georgia Tech 4/3	OK. State	OK. State	OK. State	OK. State	OK. State

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you into the section. Write "I can beat the experts" on a sheet of paper with your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editors at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're selected randomly, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

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Spectator Sports

April 2, 2004

Women's lax wins six of first seven

Strong leadership and skilled first years have the Conts ranked 12th in the nation

by Matt Bradley '07
SPORTS WRITER

The nationally ranked women's lacrosse team is off to an outstanding start, winning six out of its first seven games this season. All six of the squad's wins came in away games against very talented teams, rightfully earning Hamilton its twelfth place Division III national ranking. On March 30, in the most recent game, the team suffered its first loss.

The girls began their season in West Palm Beach, Florida, during Spring Break. They won their March 16 season opener, outscoring Messiah College 12-5. Christina Trabandt '05 led the offensive charge, scoring three goals. Six other Hamilton players also scored in the season opener against Messiah.

The Continentals played two other successful games in Florida as well. The girls dominated SUNY Oswego and Bowdoin, winning the games 14-4 and 8-7 respectively. Seven Hamilton players contributed to the team's fourteen goals against SUNY Oswego, including Inga Stots '07, who picked up three. In the victory over Bowdoin, three first years accounted for six out of the eight goals scored. Suzy Belmont '07 led the team in scoring, picking up three goals against the Polar Bears. West Palm Beach proved to be a successful location for the Continentals. They almost doubled the goals scored by their three opponents, outscoring them by a total of 30-16.

The team is led by tri-captains Nadia Dovi '04, Amanda Hollis '05, and Sarah McNeil '04. Dovi was a First Team all-New York Region selection last season and was also selected as an all-conference Second Team pick. She and her two co-captains lead the defensive front. "The experience of our defense is allowing us to adapt our defensive sets to make the opposing attack as uncomfortable as possible," comments Head Coach Patty Kloidt. "We find out how the opponents run their attack and take that away from them."

Another important factor for the team's defense is its goalie. So far this season, Coach Kloidt has been splitting time between two first year goalies. Hilary Gamble '07 and Kalley Greer '07 are still vying for the starting job. Gamble and Greer have both been extremely successful so far this season. Gamble has a .547 save-percentage while Greer has a .537 thus far. With two equally talented young first years, choosing one goalie over the other may be difficult.

Gamble and Greer are not the only freshmen making a big contribution to the team this season. "The freshman class has definitely had an enormous impact on our season," says Dovi. "We graduated seven seniors last year, so having eleven incoming freshmen was definitely a plus for our program."

Liz Longley '07 and Stots have been the team's most productive offensive weapons. Longley and Stots have thirteen and eleven points respectively. In addition, Suzy Belmont '07 has scored five goals while Caitlin Jacobs '07 has picked up six. Without this group of productive and gifted first years, the team dynamic would be much different. "I would continue to expect great things from our freshman players," comments Dovi about the young players. "Considering they make up half of our team, we would be a little lost without them!"

In the most recent game against Nazareth College, the Continentals lost a tough-fought game, 8-7. The game was a back and forth battle between teams. Nazareth had a 3-1 advantage for most of the first half. With just under ten minutes left, however, Hamilton began its three goal offensive to end the half with a 4-3 advantage over the Golden Flyers. Danielle Levine '05 scored the final goal before the end of the half. Hamilton's half-time lead however, would be the last of the game.

The women from Nazareth College came out very aggressively in the second half. The Golden Flyers scored four straight goals, giving them the 7-4 lead with just over fifteen minutes remaining in the game. Hamilton's Anne Lucas '06 scored two quick goals only 34 seconds apart, providing a strong rebuttal for the Continentals. Lucas' two goals cut their deficit to only one with a score of 7-6.

With only 1:17 left in the game, Nazareth scored the eighth and game-winning goal. Hamilton's Moira Delahanty '06 answered by scoring a goal with only 34 seconds remaining. Delahanty's goal changed the score to a 7-8 Hamilton deficit. The Continentals, unfortunately, had very little time left to work with. The game's end brought the 12th ranked Continentals their first loss of the season.

This extremely young and talented Hamilton squad is expected to continue its success for the remainder of the season. "The key to maintaining a successful season will be a matter of our team continuing to put in 110% at practice and playing hard against all of our opponents," comments Dovi.

The women's lacrosse team home opener will be against Union College. The game is scheduled for April 9 at 4:00 p.m. on the turf. "Our season is far from over," says Coach Kloidt. "We have enjoyed early success, but the most difficult part of the year is yet to come."

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Hard work and timely scoring have allowed the Lady Conts to jump out to a 6-1 record this season.

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Liz Longley (21) is the leading scorer on the women's lacrosse team so far this spring with thirteen goals and five assists.

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Anne Lucas (17) has been an important offensive player so far this season for the women's lacrosse

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